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Shock tactics in the women's magazine wars

The naked and the read

G2 pages 12/13

Education

Who excludes violent teachers?

G2 pages 10/11

David Lacey and Richard Williams on the big match

Bring on the Dutch

Sport back page



Divorce: A law nobody wants

'Deeply flawed' bill saved after Labour forces concessions from Government

Rebecca Smithers
Political Correspondent

AFTER 12 months of bitter opposition from the Tory moral majority, the right-wing press, religious leaders and lawyers, the most controversial piece of legislation since the poll tax will become law upon Royal Assent in a few days.

The failure of the Family Law Bill centrepiece of the Government's legislative programme, would have been a serious blow for the beleaguered John Major and would have prompted the resignation of its chief architect, the Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay.

It was saved when Labour wrenched an eleventh-hour concession to divide pensions in spite of continuing resistance from rightwing Tory MPs.

The Family Law Act, which is designed to stem the rising tide of marriage break-up in England and Wales, will come into effect in 1996. It will introduce the most fundamental divorce reforms for nearly 30 years, but it has been changed beyond all recognition from the bill which was originally published last year.

The act will scrap "quickie" divorces and introduce "no-fault" divorce after an 18-month waiting period, which the Government believes will reduce the acrimony of marriage break-up and make it easier to resolve issues such as the welfare of children. Lord Mackay said

yesterday: "We have done everything we can to produce a Bill which is sensible and takes account of as many different points of view as it is possible to do within the framework of principle that I have outlined."

But Labour, which nominally supported the bill, has in recent weeks dismissed it as "a dog's breakfast" and "deeply flawed" as a result of the many changes conceded to Tory rightwingers.

Until last night's critical Third Reading, Labour was threatening to kill off the bill completely unless the Government agreed to its demands for a package of fresh amendments.

Ministers agreed last week to accept Labour's demands for a strengthening of provisions on domestic violence and representation of children in divorce proceedings, but it became clear over the weekend that they were digging their heels in on the thorny issue of pension-splitting - a change which was forced through the Lords by Labour peer Baroness Hogg.

Tory rightwing rebels opposed the changes from the start, fearing that the bill would undermine the institution of marriage and push up divorce rates.

A carefully orchestrated campaign launched in the Lords by Baroness Young, former Leader of the Lords, was continued in the Commons by former minister Edward Leigh.

It triggered a spectacular Tory revolt on a "free vote" in committee stage, which forced the Government to lengthen the "cooling off period" from 12 months to 18 months.

At the same time, a bid to retain the concept of fault was defeated, even though 110 Conservatives backed it.

Last night in the Commons, the Government halfheartedly agreed to accept Labour's new clause which gives the Lord Chancellor the power to introduce pension-splitting as soon as the new legislation comes into force - but only after Labour's legal affairs critic, Lord Boateng had criticised Social Security Minister Oliver Heald's "grudging and mean-spirited response" to Labour's proposal. Mr Boateng said there would be no Family Law Bill



With this ring... The Family Law Act is designed to stem the rising tide of marriage break-up. England and Wales have the highest divorce rate in Europe PHOTOGRAPH DAVID SALTIRE

Those in favour...

Right NO	Left NO	Lawyers NO	Church NO	Professional NO	Government NO
Wanted fault to stay as ground for divorce, arguing divorce on demand would devalue marriage, but failed. Wanted waiting time to be extended from one year to two, but only succeeded in winning increase to 18 months.	Argued that ending failed marriages will take longer under the Bill than at present which could add to rancour and strain for children. Wanted measures on domestic violence to be extended to unmarried couples.	Failed to keep 12-month waiting period for all couples, and a guarantee that those on legal aid could choose between lawyers and mediators to resolve disputes. Argued that amended package would be worse than current law.	Argued against removing fault, saying it would have devastating consequences for faithful partners. Some churches backed failed attempt to increase cooling off period to two years.	Wanted that, after amendments, youngsters under 18 would face nearly two years of uncertainty over family future. Called for the re-introduction of 12-month cooling off period.	Intention to remove fault came under concerted right-wing attack. Forced to up cooling off period from 12 months to 18 in contested divorces. Forced to allow courts powers to block contested divorce.

unless the Government included Labour's clause on the face of the bill.

He had also strongly criticised the Government's refusal to set out a timetable for the measure, which ministers insisted was dependent upon a consultation exercise to be launched shortly.

MPs were due to be given a free vote on rightwing rebels' amendments to introduce a new "conscience clause" allowing divorce to be blocked on religious grounds, a six-month "litigation-free" zone - both of which the

Government agreed to back. There was expected to be some resistance by the Tory rebels to an amendment by their colleague Jim Lester - again due to be accepted by the Government - which provides for an additional three-month waiting period within the overall 18-month cooling-off period.

Moves by Liberal Democrat MP David Alton and Tory MP Dame Jill Knight to introduce an "opt-out" clause from the divorce law was rejected without a vote. As the report stage got under way last

night, Gary Streeter, minister in the Lord Chancellor's Department, flagged up the spirit of compromise by proposing that separated couples be encouraged to undergo counselling, a move demanded by Tory rightwing rebels.

Mr Streeter said: "Let's not have first and second class marriages but let us strive to make all marriages first class."

But Labour made it clear it was not prepared to give the Government an easy time by pressing ministers to reveal

the cost of counselling to the legislation, which was initially described as "cost-neutral". He said Labour would take into account the Government's refusal to give a financial commitment to counselling services in its deliberations on the remaining stages of the Bill.

In England and Wales, two out of every five marriages end in divorce, and the two countries now have the highest rate in Europe - almost twice the average.

Last year 175,000 couples were divorced.



IRA to unleash Ulster violence, loyalists claim

Bomb hunt detectives trace taxi driver who handed over cash

David Sharrock
Ireland Correspondent

TERRORIST violence drew nearer to returning to Northern Ireland last night when loyalist paramilitaries claimed that the IRA is about to resume fully its campaign of violence and warned that they were "prepared for all eventualities".

The Ulster Freedom Fighters, a loyalist group linked to the Ulster Democratic Party, which committed many atrocities before calling a ceasefire in October 1994, issued a brief statement to the BBC in Bel-

fast which said that its "considered view" was that an IRA resumption of violence in Northern Ireland was imminent.

The bombing in Manchester was "a further demonstration that republicans do not seek a political resolution to the conflict" and therefore the UFF had "alerted its personnel accordingly". The UFF remained prepared for all eventualities.

But the statement added that it remained fully committed to the peace process, and called, even at this late stage, on the IRA to restore its ceasefire. Pressure

on the loyalist leaderships is growing from hardliners who believe that the ceasefire has done nothing to advance their cause. But senior loyalist sources believe that the ceasefire can yet be maintained, so long as the Government does not accede to further Sinn Fein demands.

The Home Secretary, Michael Howard, last night toured the devastated bomb site in Manchester, praising the police operation to counter "a despicable act on an unsuspecting community".

Police hunting the bombers last night said they had traced a taxi driver who last Friday took more than £2,000 in cash as payment for the van used in the bombing to a motor dealer in Peterbor-

ough. Video footage from security cameras in Manchester city centre was last night being examined by detectives.

Loyalist politicians taking part in the all-party talks at Stormont yesterday admitted that the outlook is bleak. Billy Hutchinson of the Progressive Unionist Party, which has links with the Ulster Volunteer Force, said: "Every time the IRA explodes a bomb and say 'Stuff the peace process', the closer we get to a resumption of loyalist violence."

Gary McMichael, leader of the Ulster Democratic Party, which has links with the UFF, called on the SDLP leader, John Hume, to sever his links with Sinn Fein president Gerry Adams. "It is time for

John Hume to cut loose. Those not interested in peace should be left behind."

The Ulster Unionist leader, David Trimble, had talks with the Northern Ireland Secretary, Sir Patrick Mayhew, and afterwards agreed with the UFF that the IRA was preparing to restart the violence. "The IRA is trying to give themselves a spurious excuse by provoking loyalists into reaction, and I hope that loyalists will not fall into that trap."

Pressure on Sinn Fein to disassociate itself from IRA violence intensified yesterday. The Irish prime minister, John Bruton, said: "Sinn Fein now must speak not out of the lexicon of evasive words but straight from the heart."

The Irish government will today review its contacts with Sinn Fein.

A government spokesman said: "The real challenge now for Mr Adams himself is to answer two simple questions: has he yet gone to the IRA to ask for a ceasefire, and if not why? And does his party continue to support the 'armed struggle' of the IRA?"

Mr Adams yesterday said that his party should not be "scapegoated" for the Manchester bombing, but refused to condemn it.

The Ulster Unionist MP, Ken Maginnis, said it was time to cut Sinn Fein out of the talks altogether. "Let's accept the fact that we cannot rehabilitate them, that there can be no metamorphosis."

Inside

Britain
A package to curb activities of all convicted sex offenders, including house arrest, was unveiled by the Home Secretary.

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Finance
Sainsbury joined the supermarket loyalty war by launching a Reward card and adding an Air Miles option to discount vouchers.

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Sketch

Free counselling for the love rats



Simon Hoggart

Each unhappy family is unhappy in its own way, said Tolstoy (or possibly Trotsky). There are some Tony MPs who would certainly regard that as a suspiciously left-wing sentiment. I wouldn't know myself, but I read the News of the World and, like the House of Commons, it seems to believe that all marriages should be happy in much the same way. Page after page of deviants: footballers, comedians, soap opera stars, last Sunday even a "top chef" who has been conducting a liaison with, aptly enough, the heiress to a sausage fortune. All of them are branded "love rats". Large public hotels become "top-secret love nests". Nobody ever does anything so mundane as have sex; they engage in "steamy romps". This forbidden passion does seem to have a revitalising effect. "Super-stud ministers" can make love eight times a night, and then write a speech before returning to the field. And there are so many of them. One gets the impression that half the male population spends all its leisure time engaged in adultery, and the other half devotes its working hours to finding them out. Now the Commons has decreed that tens of thousands of us must join another new service industry: marriage counselling. This will be offered free to a vast number of couples in danger of breaking up. As Dame Jill Knight (C, Edgbaston) pointed out, in some parts of the country it is already impossible to find a counsellor inside 12 months. What, she implied, would happen to a service inundated by all these soap opera stars, footballers and ministers? Edward Leigh (C, Gainsborough) pointed out that

since the Government was going to pay for all this counselling from public funds, a stream of gold will pour into the marriage industry. John Patten (C, Oxford) was worried that as a consequence of this loot, cowboy counsellors would spring up everywhere. He demanded a screening process, which leaves open the question: who will screen the screeners? The debate was opened, appropriately enough, by a new minister, Gary Streeter. He was pushed suddenly into the job last week because of the changes caused by the departure of Mr Rod Richards, whose steamy sex romps and kinky bondage sessions caused his departure from the Welsh office. (Earlier, during Welsh questions, Mr Richards had sat bravely on his own, listening quietly to the answers for which he must have been preparing even 10 days ago.) MPs all sides congratulated Mr Streeter on his swift mastery of his brief, though I thought his claim that "we are going further than any previous Government to give support to marriage" was a hostage to fortune. It was Tony "Von" Marlow (C, Northampton N) who first inquired how expensive it would be to offer all this free counselling. None better than Mr Marlow to raise the question, since he has two complete families of his own, and if both broke up the PSER would skyrocket. Dame Jill said that she was suspicious of agencies since they started to change their names. "I have had my worries about Relationships since they dropped the word marriage from their title," she said. Mr Patten agreed that was when the rot had set in. Listening to a debate in the House of Lords, he said, "I even heard the phrase 'couple counselling' fall from the lips of a noble prelate." He made it sound like a dead bird falling from a cat's teeth. I've never been to counselling, but I know many people who have. Most of them only want to be told their spouse is in the wrong. The title of my cowboy outfit, designed to get all this money, will be something more realistic, such as "Ooh, He Never!" or "What Time Do You Call This, Then?" I'll make a fortune.

Howard unveils wide-ranging package of measures, including 'tracking' and powers of house arrest

Sex offenders face tagging

Alan Travis Home Affairs Editor

A PACKAGE of powers, including electronic tagging and periods of house arrest, designed to restrict the activities of all convicted sex offenders and not just paedophiles, was unveiled yesterday by the Home Secretary, Michael Howard. The new measures on the sentencing and supervision of sex offenders are far more wide-ranging than was first expected, and include plans to track the movements of rapists and gay sex criminals as well as paedophiles. About 1,500 offenders each year will be affected. The package was announced alongside the introduction of US-style minimum sentencing into the Scottish legal system as part of what has been dubbed the Government's "law and order week". A revised Victims' Charter is to be published today. Mr Howard yesterday outlined the new measures to be taken against sex criminals before legislating this autumn. He said: "The Government believes that we need to strengthen the arrangements for supervising convicted sex offenders after

Paedophiles will always beat system, says ex-offender

'They're clever and organised. They will find a way round any regulation'

Stuart Miller

ACCORDING to John, a 38-year-old who served six months of an 18 month sentence for abusing children, paedophiles will always find a way to beat the system. From his point of view, the Home Secretary's proposals are just more evidence of society's lack of understanding in dealing with paedophiles. "The first thing on these people's minds is how they are going to get access to children," he said yesterday. "It is like an addiction. These people are clever and organised, so they will find a way round any regulation. They change their names or go abroad." For many, he said, prison is less of a punishment than a place to meet other paedophiles. "A lot of knowledge goes through those gates. There were people in jail who had been abusing for 30 or 40 years. In prison, you have a

lot of like-minded people strolling about together, talking about how they can indulge their fantasies." Even the most sophisticated obstacles outlined in the proposals, such as DNA testing, are not insurmountable to the determined paedophile, he claimed. John, who attended a therapy group in an attempt to prevent him reoffending, believes fooling people comes naturally to child abusers, because they spend so much of the time lying to themselves. "You have to be an accomplished liar, that goes with the territory. I would convince myself that I was different from the paedophiles I read about in the papers, and I would make people see me as John, the nice geezer. Some of these people found out in the most horrible way when I abused their children that I wasn't quite what they thought. "That's the key. Parents have to be made more aware of the dangers. At the moment, they are too willing to trust people, and that is very dangerous. "Even now, I would never expect that trust from people because I have abused it in the past. No one can ever stand up and say I'm cured. There is no cure." house arrest at times when children are travelling home from school or banning them from going near public places like swimming pools. These restrictions may be monitored by electronic tagging. Offenders could also be required to undertake treatment programmes or to live in an approved hostel; Backdating new powers to take DNA samples from convicted sex offenders. This

raphy. Defence counsel would still have access under controlled conditions. The Home Office says that adult men convicted of sex offences often describe a history of mainly undetected sexual offending which began in childhood and escalated to more serious offences often of a manipulative nature. It leaves open exactly which sex offenders would have to register each time they moved. The shadow Home Secretary, Jack Straw, gave a broad welcome to the package, but said it did not go far enough in tackling the difficulties of securing convictions of sex offenders in the first place. But Peter Tatchell of the gay pressure group, OutRage, voiced concern that the proposals made no distinction between consensual offences such as indecency and soliciting and serious sex offences such as rape and child abuse. He said: "Tens of thousands of gay and bisexual men have been convicted of victimless consenting behaviour with partners over the age of 16. All these men may now be penalised." But the package was welcomed by the Police Superintendents' Association. This is to prevent the perverted use of them as porno-



A grief-stricken US infantryman, whose buddy has been killed in action, is comforted during the Korean war. A report claims 15 soldiers are still being held in North Korea

American POWs 'still alive in North Korea'

PHILIP SHENON in Washington AS MANY as 15 American soldiers taken prisoner during the Korean war are still alive in North Korea and several may want to return to the United States, according to a defence department report. The internal report contradicts Pentagon statements that it was unlikely many US soldiers might still be alive in North Korea. Instead, it describes a "recent flurry" of "very compelling reports" that American prisoners are still being held. Sam Grizzle, a defence department spokesman, confirmed the authenticity of the document, which was made available to reporters by a Republican member of Congress, but said it did not reflect the formal views of the Pentagon. "We've never ruled out the possibility of POWs, but we've never ruled it in," he said. "The memo is unsigned, and as far as I'm concerned, this is a draft memo." The Pentagon has said in the past it had compelling evidence that only two American defectors — not prisoners of war — were still alive in North Korea. The March 26 report was marked "for official use only" and was prepared by Insung Lee, a defence department investigator. Officials described him as a veteran investigator with the Office of Prisoner of War and Missing in Action Affairs, a Pentagon agency. The two-page report bases its conclusions on sightings by visitors and defectors. "There are too many live sightings reports, specifically observations of several Caucasians in a collective farm by Romanians and the North Korean defectors' eye-witness of Americans to dismiss that there are no American POWs in North Korea," it says. The report says the evidence suggests that American prisoners are living in compounds in the capital Pyongyang and its suburbs, and that their movements "are apparently controlled by the North Korean government". The document was made available by congressman Robert Dornano of California, who has suggested that Pentagon investigators failed to follow up evidence that US soldiers might still be held in North Korea, Vietnam and other former war zones. A spokesman for Mr Dornano, Al Santoli, said that the report had been handed over by Pentagon officials sympathetic to his efforts to pursue information about missing Americans. While Mr Lee's report offers no conclusive evidence that Americans are being held against their will in North Korea, it cites "a variety of additional sightings reports" in recent years suggesting that many American POWs may still be alive. — New York Times

Wartime hero Fitzroy Maclean dies at 85

Ed Vulliamy SIR Fitzroy Maclean, one of the great heroic figures of the wartime era, died at the weekend, aged 85. Sir Fitzroy was an intrepid traveller and adventurer, and was best known for parachuting into Yugoslavia during the second world war and aiding Tito's partisans. From a military family, Sir Fitzroy was a diplomat in Moscow during the 1930s, and later a founder member of the SAS. He was personally recruited by Winston Churchill to steer the Yugoslav partisans in the fight against Hitler, and remained a lifelong friend of Marshal Tito. He wrote numerous books, notably Eastern Approaches (1949). From 1941 to 1974, he was a Tory MP. Obituary, page 10

Review

Close encounter with artistic kind

Edward Greenfield

Aldeburgh Festival Snape Matings

THERE is no place quite like the Snape Matings for bringing you into the warmest, closest contact with great artists. After Britten and Pears, one thinks of Rostropovich and Richter, Perahia and Horowitz. It is one practical reason why, 20 years after Britten's death, the Aldeburgh Festival remains so distinctive, and this year's central recital of the fortnight, featuring not a blockbuster figure from abroad but a young British artist, was among the most memorable in years. If, last September, the star quality of the violinist, Tasmin Little, shone out at the last night of the Proms, this Aldeburgh recital amplified that achievement in bringing out deeper and even stronger qualities besides immediate magnetism. Striding on stage in a business-like manner, a grin on her face, she seemed determined from the start that we were going to enjoy things as much as she was. She paused barely a second before launching into Brahms's C minor Scherzo from the complete FAE Sonata, a substantial hours' oeuvre, strongly flavoured. That led to an account of Bach's unaccompanied D minor Partita such as I have rarely if ever known in concert, concentrated and intense from first to last, with breath-catching moments of repose punctuating the biting energy, the lone both pure and rich, the intonation flawless even in

the most taxing passages of double-stopping. Before the second half, she addressed the audience, amplifying our programme note, telling us of the elegant epilogue which for her forms the seemingly extrovert Poulenc Violin Sonata. Her performance confirmed her promise, leading to pure fantasy in Szymanowski, red-blooded gypsy qualities in Ravel's Tzigane (with the pianist, John Leshian, an equally exuberant partner) and encores full of wit and panache. The recital 24 hours earlier in St Edmund's church, Southwold, had many of the same qualities, not least the magnetism of the two artists, the clarinetist, Michael Collins, and the pianist Kathryn Stott. There, too, the weight of the first half, Schubert and Brahms, led to French effervescence in the second, Poulenc and Ravel, with Arthur Benjamin's 'Tombeau de Ravel' providing an added surprise. A central theme of the 1996 festival is the music of Hans Werner Henze, 70 this year, and Saturday brought Henze in a concert performance of his ballet, Ondine, of 1957, revealing an open-hearted warmth such as Henze has rarely allowed himself. Under Oliver Knussen, the London Sinfonietta gave a brilliant red-blooded performance. Earlier in the day at Jubilee Hall, Anthony Payne celebrated his 60th birthday with a delightfully mixed programme, memorable not least for music of his own involving his wife, the soprano, Jane Manning, and her brilliant group, Jane's Minstrels.

Ballet company forced to close midway through national tour

Dan Gialister Arts correspondent

LONDON City Ballet closed yesterday mid-way through a national tour, putting 32 dancers and 19 musicians out of work. The company ceased trading and went into voluntary liquidation as its financial future could not be guaranteed.

Dancers and musicians were told of the decision after Saturday night's performance of Cinderella at His Majesty's Theatre in Aberdeen. "We needed £30,000," said the artistic director, Harold King, who founded the company in 1976. "By 5pm Friday no one had come forward. We've had financial blips in the past. I didn't realise how bad or sudden it would be."

Vertical sidebar containing various advertisements and small text, including 'Plan to give', 'East End', and 'Both sides wool'.

Handwritten signature or mark at the bottom center of the page.

سكنا مسالا جرنل

Plan to give London children holidays puts historian at odds with media personalities



'Few people can afford to move into this area. We have a duty to share this beautiful place' — Rev Paul Nicolson, Vicar of Turville



'This is about a group of deprived children having a holiday. I'm sorry that one well-heeled villager can't stomach that.' — Jeremy Paxman, Newsnight presenter



'It's rotten luck on people who live near the school, and can't afford to go off to Tuscany to get away from the noise like the Mortimers' — Alistair Horne on John Mortimer, above



Modern day bickering amid the old-world charm... the High Street and green at Turville village in Buckinghamshire

PHOTOGRAPH: RICHARD OLIVER

East Enders row shatters Dibley village calm

Maev Kennedy Heritage Correspondent

Passions have been inflamed in an idyllic Buckinghamshire village by the news that lottery organisers Camelot have given an £11,000 grant for holidays for East End children...

The young visitors to the real village will have the choice of half a dozen heated swimming pools, including John and Penny's, and Jeremy has very kindly agreed to look after the barbecue...

former champagne salesman and trade union representative. Some Turville residents, led by historian Alistair Horne who lives in the Old Vicarage, have fought a bitter campaign against the holidays scheme...

eight years that this is an utterly misguided charity. This is the wrong village for it, and these people who are pushing it all live miles away...

move into this area unless they can pay £100,000 for a very, very modest house. We have a duty to share this beautiful place...

within yards of the school, and can't afford to go off to Tuscany to get away from the noise like the Mortimers...

Both sides woo Russian ex-general who holds key to second round of presidential poll

David Hearst and James Meek in Moscow

The retired army general Alexander Lebed went shopping yesterday for a top government post, as President Boris Yeltsin and his main communist challenger, Gennady Zyuganov, beset the nationalist politician with generous offers in return for his key support in the second round of the presidential elections...

After a first round showing which put him in third place, Mr Lebed met Mr Yeltsin in the Kremlin yesterday and left without making any comment. The top post he can hope for in a Yeltsin government is one that combines first deputy prime minister in charge of army, police and border troops with secretary of the national security council...

concerted action in the second round of voting. After the meeting, Viktor Ilyushin, the senior presidential aide, said Mr Lebed had always remained in Mr Yeltsin's "field of vision" throughout the campaign...

to lose from a large cabinet reshuffle. He said Mr Lebed was distinguished by his directness and "Russian openness"...

and the ultranationalist Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, were a long way behind with 7.11 per cent and 5.84 per cent of the vote respectively...

economic problems were such that the prime minister needed to be a good manager. A low second-round turnout could make the race a close one, particularly as many of Mr Lebed's supporters will vote for Mr Zyuganov, even if the general himself joins Mr Yeltsin...

Ultimatum to Major in beef war

John Palmer in Rome and Michael White

BRITAIN and its European Union partners were edging warily towards a settlement in the beef war last night after the EU presented John Major with a stark choice — to abandon his non-cooperation tactics and accept tougher measures to eradicate the BSE or risk losing a deal on the phasing out of the British beef ban at this weekend's Florence summit...

ence framework will not include a firm timetable or be legally binding. Britain will also be prohibited from selling beef to third countries while the EU ban is in force, a potentially wounding concession which will raise scepticism who believe the ban to be illegal...

The package, which Whitehall officials were not dismissing out of hand, would include a bigger slaughter of suspect cattle — as many as 200,000 on top of the 80,000 under threat, according to some EU estimates — despite the warnings among Tory Euro-sceptics that they will not sanction any more scientifically-unwarranted culls...

To ram home their determination that the British government win no political kudos from a Florence deal, Mr Major will also be asked to make an unambiguous declaration abandoning Britain's veto campaign at the start of the summit...

Whether this will appease the Euro-sceptics, who see the beef war as the start of a jihad to rescue British sovereignty from Brussels, is doubtful, especially since the likely Florence framework will not include a firm timetable or be legally binding...

In a further sign that the Government's nerve is beginning to fray, Mr Rifkin yesterday promised that if the beef ban is lifted, Britain will drop its long-standing opposition to allowing the European Court legal powers over Europe, the embryo European Union police force...

Safety warning on nuclear sale

Internal documents reveal concern on industry's ability to tackle emergencies

Chris Barrie and Simon Beavis

VITAL safety information from official legal advisers on next month's privatisation of nuclear power has been omitted from the pathfinder prospectus, it emerged last night in confidential documents seen by the Guardian...

the company formed to own the country's eight modern reactors which are being sold — insisted that nuclear inspectors were now satisfied and that the prospectus included all matters "material to the business"...

Internal documents leaked to Labour MP Brian Wilson make it clear that nuclear inspectors are increasingly concerned about loss of skills in the industry and its ability to cope with emergencies. The industry's workforce has been cut by a fifth in four years to 6,500...

But with Labour preparing to mount a fresh onslaught on the Government over its handling of the sell-off in a Commons debate tonight, the Clifford Chance warnings will provide opposition MPs and unions with fresh ammunition. Unions have consistently warned that the industry has paved its technical expertise to the bone in an attempt to make rapid efficiency gains...

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SECOND-HAND TOBACCO SMOKE IN PERSPECTIVE

“Today we know that this substance, now called “Environmental Tobacco Smoke” (ETS) or “Secondhand Smoke” is the deadliest danger to which we are exposed.”

Action on Smoking and Health, U.S.A.

Is it correct? Or is it just politically correct?

Almost every day, it seems that one thing or another has been discovered to be some kind of health risk.

In one scientific study, even the ordinary biscuit was linked to heart disease.

But as common sense suggests (and scientists confirm) not everything described statistically as a risk is a meaningful risk.

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And below, in fact, the risk to health that one other study reported for eating one biscuit a day.

As the table below shows, many everyday

activities have been statistically associated at one time or another with apparent risks to health.

But reputable scientists say that weak associations aren't necessarily meaningful.

So there's no big campaign to persuade you to give up your daily biscuit.

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Everyday Activities	Reported Relative Risk*	Reported Health Effect	Scientific Study Reference
Diet highest in saturated fat	6.14	Lung cancer	Journal of the National Cancer Institute, Vol. 85, p.1906 (1993)
Non-vegetarian v vegetarian diet	3.08	Heart disease	American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, Vol. 31, p. S191 (1978)
Frequently cooking with rapeseed oil	2.80	Lung cancer	International Journal of Cancer, Vol. 40, p. 604 (1987)
Drinking 1-2 glasses of whole milk per day	1.62	Lung cancer	International Journal of Cancer, Vol. 43, p. 608 (1989)
Eating one biscuit a day	1.49	Heart disease	Lancet, Vol. 341, p. 581 (1993)
Drinking chlorinated water	1.38	Rectal cancer	American Journal of Public Health, Vol. 82, p. 955 (1992)
Eating pepper frequently	1.30	Mortality	American Journal of Epidemiology, Vol. 119, p. 775 (1984)
Exposure to second-hand tobacco smoke	1.19	Lung cancer	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (1992)
High vegetable diet	0.37	Lung cancer	International Journal of Epidemiology, Vol. 25, Suppl. 1, p. 32 (1996)
High fruit diet	0.31	Lung cancer	American Journal of Epidemiology, Vol. 133, p. 683 (1991)

*Relative risk measures how much consuming, or being exposed to something, raises or lowers risk. According to the US National Cancer Institute... "In epidemiologic research, relative risks of less than 2 are considered small and are usually difficult to interpret. Such increases may be due to chance, statistical bias, or effects of confounding factors that are sometimes not evident."

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Second-hand tobacco smoke. Let's keep a sense of perspective.

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RUSSIAN ELECTIONS: Rivals scramble for Alexander Lebed's support in run-off as he finishes ahead of liberals

Voters fly the nationalist flag

David Hearst in Moscow

A NEW day dawned in Russian politics yesterday. President Yeltsin said the choice for the country was "crystal clear": either "back to revolutions and shocks, or ahead to stability and prosperity".

The constellation of forces after this election will have to reflect the fact that the electorate has rejected two myths: first, that the freer the market, the quicker the country can be put back on its feet; and, second, that salvation can be found in return to the certainties of a Brezhnev-era communist state.

Voters believe they have at last found the strong arm at the tiller they have been craving so long. That arm belongs to a two-star reservist army general with a populist touch and no experience of power, Alexander Lebed.

The arrival of Mr Lebed on the scene is bad news for the democrats who propelled Mr Yeltsin to power five years ago. In 1991, on a turnout of 70 million people — almost the same as this time — Mr Yeltsin won the first round with 60 per cent of the vote. Five years on his vote after much arm twisting, bribery and bullying, has decreased by 25 per cent. And that is a national phenomenon — his support fell in 86 of 89 regions.

What has happened to the democrats who once supported him? His former acting prime minister, Yegor Gaidar, is no longer a political force and neither is another free market economist and guru, Anatoly Sobchak, who was recently ousted as mayor of St Petersburg.

Grigory Yavlinsky, the liberal economist who lambasted the radical democrats for their mistakes, cuts a lonely figure with a little over 5 million votes. Once heralded as a future president, Mr Yavlinsky last month insisted on the removal of four top ministers as the price for his cooperation. He has little bargaining power with the Kremlin now.

He has become a small fish in a big pond, and the intellectuals who back him have long faces. "How could Russians be so stupid?" one said angrily yesterday.

The rump of radical democrats advisers in the presidential administration must also be feeling the draught. Men such as Sergei Filatov, the former head of administration; Georgi Satarov, the chief political adviser; Yuri Buturin, the national security adviser; and Alexander Livshits, the economic adviser. They pressed Mr Yeltsin to make a pact with Mr Yavlinsky but now find themselves exposed by the new mood in the country.

The clear winner in these elections has been the nationalist vote. About 23 million people voted for the National Patriotic Alliance headed by Gennady Zyuganov, the Communist leader. Many ex-



Man of the moment... General Alexander Lebed, who finished a strong third, and wife Inna walk home after voting on Sunday. PHOTOGRAPH BY IGOR MIKHAILEV

pressed a nationalist nostalgia for the old Soviet Union. The Union of Slavic Republics proposed by Alexander Lebed is its reincarnation. A further 10 million voted for Gen Lebed — whose platform ranged from law and order to army reform and defence of Russians abroad — and just over 4 million voted for the extreme nationalist Vladimir Zhirinovskiy.

Mr Zhirinovskiy's relatively low vote has been Gen Lebed's gain. The general comes across as a less adventurous protector of the motherland. Mr Zhirinovskiy said in his book Last Push to the South that Russian soldiers would bathe their feet in the Indian Ocean. When asked whether he would serve in a government if Mr Zhirinovskiy became president, Gen Lebed replied: "No, I don't want to wash my feet in the Indian Ocean."

To win in the next round, Mr Yeltsin must take on

board the central message of these elections — that Russians want a leader who will strengthen their state.

The other winners in this election are the advisers and strongmen whose common in-

terests cut across party political lines. In Mr Yeltsin's administration they include the so-called pragmatists like main adviser Viktor Ilyushin; the chief of his bodyguards, General Alexander Kozhakov; the deputy prime minister, Oleg Soskovyets; and the hawkish head of his administration, Nikolai Yegorov.

It, as expected, Mr Lebed

son finds a home in Mr Yeltsin's campaign, these grey cardinals will have no problem with the idea of launching a national crackdown on the mafia and crime. The ever-changing political line of

What ever the talk of "Reds and Whites", there will be a large convergence of economic interests between Mr Zyuganov's National Patriotic Alliance and a Gen Lebed-propelled government. Unable to break out of their ghetto, Mr Zyuganov's alliance could well start breaking up as key members defect to the government's ranks.

As Mr Yeltsin began negotiations with his new political son and heir Gen Lebed, his senior aide, Viktor Ilyushin, warned that changes in the government would not be immediate. "For Boris Nikolayevich, it's very difficult to part with those with whom he has been working for such a long time," he said. But with Gen Lebed by his side, and the promise of another term, Mr Yeltsin won't struggle long with his conscience.

Mr Lebed still endorses Pinochet, although he now prefers to compare himself to Charles de Gaulle. If judged by his programme — never a safe thing to do in Russian politics — his nationalist tendencies have become less important than his promise to restore "order". His manifesto even appears to allow

for the possible secession from Russia of most of Chechnia. "We don't need the order of the concentration camps, but an ordinary human order," he said. Mr Lebed wants to cut state corruption by forcing bureaucrats above a certain rank to report all earnings and expenditure by their relatives.

He calls for harsher punishments for bribe-takers, higher pay for the police, better protection of judges and witnesses and, ominously, greater "accountability" from judges who "let criminals go".

He is opposed to state interference in the market, and believes capitalism works better than communism. Even his economic policies are couched in a language combining folksiness and harshness in a peculiarly Russian way. "The state must not be a wolf, gnawing at the economy, but a wolfhound, defending it," he said.

disastrous move which hobbled both men and won them few votes in parliamentary elections last December. Mr Lebed was written off as a contender in this year's presidential vote.

Mr Lebed has turned out to be a far more potent force, a made-to-measure image of the remorseless protector some Russians yearn to see rule them, rounding up bandits, rooting out corrupt bureaucrats, making the army a force to be proud of. After all, while the ultra-nationalist Vladimir Zhirinovskiy only talks about shooting people, Mr Lebed has actually done so.

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Fair enough, say most observers

WITH virtually all results in, it appeared that at least 73 million out of a possible 106 million Russians had voted in the presidential poll, representing a turnout of just over two thirds, or 68.5 per cent, writes James Meek.

Foreign observers said yesterday that they had not recorded serious violations during Sunday's voting, although there had been a number of blunders and problems, particularly with the new electronic voting equipment introduced in some districts.

Observers criticised the lack of fairness in access to the media for the candidates during the campaign. Television coverage had been overwhelmingly supportive of Mr Yeltsin, and anti-Communist.

Andras Barsony, of the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe's parliamentary assembly, said: "The first round of the elections was, on the whole, carried out fairly and honestly."

Gennady Zyuganov, the Communist candidate who came second, said there had been violations, but made no attempt to challenge the validity of the vote. His party had organised a network of hundreds of thousands of observers to monitor voting in every polling station.

Russia's central electoral commission said it would have final results by tomorrow and would be ready to take a decision on when to hold the second-round run-off vote between Mr Yeltsin and Mr Zyuganov. It had been expected on July 2, but may now take place on Wednesday July 3. The Kremlin yesterday sent a bill to the State Duma proposing that that date be designated a public holiday. Russian law does not allow elections to be held on working days.



Yeltsin



Yavlinsky

DESPITE the lower than expected turnout and the narrow lead over his Communist rival, the incumbent president's 35 per cent share represents a remarkable fightback from his unpopularity of six months ago.

Mr Yeltsin polled strongly in cities benefiting from his reforms, such as Moscow (61 per cent) and St Petersburg, in his home region of Sverdlovsk, and in energy- and resource-rich regions which fear higher taxes if the Communists win.

GRIGORY YAVLINSKY: A poor fourth place for the champion of Russia's increasingly marginalised liberals, Mr Yavlinsky won a mere 7.4 per cent, and now finds himself in a weak position to gain concessions from either Mr Yeltsin or Mr Zyuganov in talks on coalitions before the run-off. It is not certain he could reliably deliver his vote to either candidate and the



Zyuganov

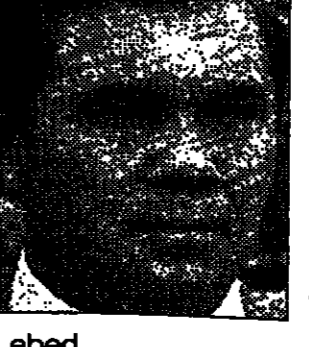


Zhirinovskiy

AFTER coming second with 32.3 per cent, Mr Zyuganov will face Mr Yeltsin in a second round run-off. A respectable result for a worthy, dull campaigner sidelined or ignored by the pro-Yeltsin media — more than some polls had predicted, but not the guarantee of victory supporters had hoped for. Mr Zyuganov polled most strongly in the "Red Belt" areas of southern Russia, the North Caucasus and the Volga basin.

Mr Zyuganov has a long record of opposition to state interference in the market, and believes capitalism works better than communism. Even his economic policies are couched in a language combining folksiness and harshness in a peculiarly Russian way. "The state must not be a wolf, gnawing at the economy, but a wolfhound, defending it," he said.

AN UNCHARACTERISTIC silence descended on the camp of the flamboyant champion of nationalist extremism yesterday. With a pitiful 6 per cent of the vote, Mr Zhirinovskiy finds himself outflanked by Mr Lebed on law and order and by all three leading candidates on nationalism. The man who once made the world tremble with expansionist demagoguery now seems unlikely to be washing his boots in the Indian Ocean.



Lebed



Also-rans

NOT only did Mr Lebed secure a surprise third place, but with 14.4 per cent of the vote he has become a political force to be reckoned with. His law and order message and strong-arm image enabled him to win the nationalist vote in the Far East. Third in most regions, Mr Lebed beat Mr Zyuganov to come second in Murmansk and Archangel. In Yaroslavl, north-east of Moscow, he won 31 per cent to Mr Yeltsin's 32.8.

IT IS back to the lecture circuit for Mikhail Gorbachev, last president of the Soviet Union who won, as predicted, 0.5 per cent. Mr Gorbachev was one of the five remaining candidates, who polled less than 5 per cent between them. Svyatoslav Fyodorov, an eye surgeon, still commands enough respect in Russia to be of use as a coalition partner to one of the remaining contenders despite his 1 per cent vote.

Crown prince of order with a made-to-measure image

Once a fan of Pinochet, Alexander Lebed these days prefers to compare himself with De Gaulle, writes James Meek in Moscow

ALEXANDER LEBED has a conversation voice, he has never shared it with the voters. In a field of stiff, often pompous presidential candidates, he was the least relaxed, sitting still as a rock while that extraordinary interviewee yesterday, sounding him out about his terms for a deal with the president. "I understand everything," rumbled Mr Lebed. "Parachute school makes everything clear."

This was the voice which confounded repeated attempts in television coverage to soften the image of a man who claims to be an ordinary,

honest, moderate ex-soldier — in interviews with his engaging wife, film of his ordinary flat, pictures of his sheepdog.

This was the voice the media yearned to hear yesterday, more than the mellow growl of Gennady Zyuganov, the Communist candidate who came second. The pack was disappointed: Mr Lebed had an appointment in the Kremlin.

This was also the voice which persuaded a significant fraction of the Russian electorate that a former two-star general with the face of a bare-knuckle boxer and a habit of denouncing his superiors in public could give them what they most desired: law and order.

The Lebed legend was born four years ago in a now almost forgotten conflict in the

former Soviet republic of Moldova, where Russia's 14th Army found itself caught up in a conflict between local forces and Slav separatists.

When hundreds of people died in the mainly Slav town of Bendery after the Moldovans tried to break out of a salient, General Lebed was rushed in to take command and peace was restored.

It did not matter that the worst of the fighting had already ended and that a peace deal had been formulated. Russia saw it as one man's resolute action saving their kin at a time of chaos, retreat and humiliation for the motherland.

The general's military credentials are impeccable. Born in 1950 to a working-class family in the southern town of Novocheboksak, he spent all his adult life in the army, mainly in the elite airborne forces.

He was directly involved in some of the most controversial episodes of the last years of the Red Army, serving in

Afghanistan, commanding troops during anti-government demonstrations in Georgia and Azerbaijan, and heading a unit popularly seen as having defended Boris Yeltsin and his supporters during the 1991 Soviet putsch.

Although Mr Lebed presents himself as a soldier gradually and reluctantly drawn into politics to try to save his country, he became active before his 14th Army days, taking part in Communist Party meetings in 1990.

He became notorious for interviews in which he would range freely over the spectrum of Russia's political, economic and military woes, branding Mr Yeltsin — his commander-in-chief — a "milnus", attacking the defence minister, Pavel Grachev, and speaking favourably of Chile's military dictator, Augusto Pinochet.

When he finally left the army and went into politics last year, Mr Lebed joined forces with the left-leaning nationalist Yuri Skokov, a

disastrous move which hobbled both men and won them few votes in parliamentary elections last December. Mr Lebed was written off as a contender in this year's presidential vote.

Mr Lebed has turned out to be a far more potent force, a made-to-measure image of the remorseless protector some Russians yearn to see rule them, rounding up bandits, rooting out corrupt bureaucrats, making the army a force to be proud of. After all, while the ultra-nationalist Vladimir Zhirinovskiy only talks about shooting people, Mr Lebed has actually done so.

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World news in brief

War crimes suspect freed in case of mistaken identity

THE Yugoslav war crimes tribunal in The Hague dropped all charges against a Bosnian Serb suspect accused of murder and torture after admitting a case of mistaken identity. It is the first time charges have been withdrawn against any of the 58 indicted war crimes suspects from the conflict in the former Yugoslavia. Goran Lajic, who was freed immediately, had been arrested last March in Germany after his name and date of birth matched those of a Goran Lajic indicted for killing at least five detainees and torturing others at the Keraterm camp in 1992. Meanwhile the US Supreme Court is to let women raped and tortured in the former Yugoslavia sue the Bosnian Serb leader, Radovan Karadzic, in the United States for crimes against humanity. — AP.

Death lottery at jail threatened

PRISONERS in western El Salvador were threatening to begin a hunger strike yesterday followed by a "lottery of death" if overcrowding continues in their jail. Inmates at the Santa Ana jail west of San Salvador told La Prensa Grafica newspaper that four prisoners picked at random and already selected would be strangled. — Reuter.

Turkey backs Iraq air patrols

Turkey's security council has agreed that the US-led allied air force in Turkey should continue flights to protect Kurds in northern Iraq, the Anatolian news agency said. US, British and French planes have patrolled northern Iraq from the Incirlik air base in Turkey since the end of the Gulf war. — Reuter.

NZ volcano erupts

Molten rock, glowing ash and flames visible 100 miles away

Infant death toll

More than 8 million babies worldwide die each year before reaching their first birthday, most of them from disease or inadequate care at birth, according to the World Health Organisation in Geneva. The study says that this toll could be drastically lowered with better clinical health care for the mother and the infant. — AP.

ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPICE MARE ST. LONDON E8 4SA. Since 1905 we have shared the grief and eased the pain of countless suffering souls. Last year alone 900 found peace with the help of our vital gifts. Most of them died of cancer - but so severely that you would hardly know it. Your concern is as encouraging as your generosity and we thank you for your inspiring trust. Sister Superior.

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, including 'The Guardian', 'Data-sharing deal', 'France US nu...', 'Paris tries farmers af...', 'Defeated Nastase sees his future in politics', 'Any British govern enough to toy wit punishment. Such strangely absent deliberations of E...

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Data-sharing deal brings test-ban treaty closer

France signs up to US nuclear club

Martin Walker in Washington

FRANCE has formally joined Britain in the inner circle of the United States-led nuclear club, signing an agreement to share test and other research data. The deal is intended to ensure the survival of the three countries' warheads long after a comprehensive test-ban treaty (CTB) comes into force.

For France, it represents another crucial step away from the Gaullist tradition of an independent nuclear deterrent, towards the British pattern of retaining nuclear status through almost complete dependence upon the US.

The agreement — like President Jacques Chirac's decision to rejoin Nato's inner councils and military consultancy committees — is of symbolic importance for France, which for 30 years tried to steer an independent nuclear and strategic course.

The US made the agreement to ensure French adherence to President Bill Clinton's plan for the CTB.

The deal foreshadows more modest US research agreements with Russia, China and Israel to bring them into the CTB regime. Mr Clinton has

already formally offered to share some US technology with Russia to help police a CTB regime, and the defence secretary, William Perry, made a similar offer to China.

If the CTB goes ahead as planned by the White House, the result will be a commonwealth of nuclear powers, in which the US would play the command role through its dominance of the test and research data.

During the later years of the cold war, many smaller powers argued that the US and Soviet Union had a common interest in maintaining their nuclear predominance and their quasi-duopoly, despite their political differences.

This has been the subtext of India's objections to the CTB. Questioning the CTB, whether the new but unacknowledged members of the nuclear club — Israel, India and Pakistan — will be brought into the deal.

The agreement was hinted at in the 1996 defence authorization bill passed by the US House of Representatives — but not yet by the Senate — which endorses this kind of nuclear co-operation with allies like Britain and France, though not with Russia and China.

"I consider any plan by the administration to share our

nation's nuclear secrets with Russia, China or other proliferant countries such as Pakistan or India, as extremely dangerous," said congressman Floyd Spence, the chairman of the national security committee.

To meet that kind of objection, US arms controllers have tried to differentiate between secrets that relate to building a bomb, and those which help maintain a test ban by monitoring the reliability of the nuclear materials in the bombs in a country's stockpile.

At the heart of the new agreement with France are a series of computer models which allow nuclear powers to have it both ways: to give up testing, while remaining confident that the bombs and warheads in stock will work.

The models re-enact the events that take place inside a nuclear weapon as it explodes, and use the data collected from the 1,054 nuclear tests carried out by the US over the past 50 years.

The US is spending \$1 billion (\$500,000) on a new laboratory at Livermore, in California, to perfect the simulation of events inside a nuclear explosion, and another \$400 million at Los Alamos to develop constant computerized imaging of the interior of a warhead.



Blast victim... Rescuers carry one of 15 people wounded yesterday after a fire had set off explosions in a house containing arms at a Palestinian refugee camp in Sidon, Lebanon. Five people were killed. PHOTOGRAPH MICHAEL CAPE-EE

New ally secures power for Likud

Our Correspondent in Jerusalem

A NEW Israeli government will be sworn in today after the former Soviet dissident, Nathan Sharansky, agreed last night to add his Russian immigrant party to prime minister-elect Benjamin Netanyahu's coalition.

Mr Sharansky will become industry and trade minister in a cabinet that should have been sworn in yesterday along with the new members of Israel's Knesset (parliament), but was delayed by haggling over cabinet portfolios.

"We're in the government," Mr Sharansky announced after emerging from Mr Netanyahu's parliamentary office. Earlier, Mr Sharansky insisted he would join the government only if his party were given the housing portfolio. He said his party, which won seven seats in the 120-member Knesset, had promised supporters it would solve the housing crisis. Russian immigrants face some of the worst housing problems in the country.

Mr Sharansky is the last coalition partner to sign an agreement with Mr Netanyahu. Last Sunday the new Israeli prime minister reached similar agreements with two religious parties — Shas and the National Religious Party — as well as the centrist and secular Third Way, which opposes the return of the occupied Golan Heights to Syria.

It was unclear last night whether Mr Netanyahu had solved the crisis within his own party after four senior members of Likud claimed they had been humiliated by offers of junior portfolios in his new government. The best known is the retired general Ariel Sharon, who continues to demand the finance or defence ministry.

Yesterday morning a compromise seemed likely when a spokesman for Gen Sharon said he had agreed to accept the housing ministry, after pressure from friends; but by evening Mr Netanyahu was reported to have offered the job to one of the religious parties. There was speculation that Gen Sharon would still join Mr Netanyahu's cabinet today, as minister without portfolio.

If Gen Sharon were given the housing job, it would be a blow for the Palestinians, who remember him as the driving force behind Jewish settlement in the West Bank and Gaza under the last Likud government in the early 1980s.

His reappearance would also unnerve the Palestinian president, Yasser Arafat, who has staked his political future on the self-rule accords signed with the outgoing Labour government that froze most settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and maintain Israel's self-proclaimed sovereignty over the Golan Heights.

Another last-minute cabinet change affects the governor of the Bank of Israel, Yaskov Frenkel, who was yesterday tipped to become the new finance minister. Sources close to Mr Netanyahu say the ministry may now go to one of the four Likud party rebels, Dan Meridor, a former minister of justice. Mr Meridor is widely seen as a challenger for the party leadership before the next election.

Paris tries to placate beef farmers after riot threat

Paul Webster in Paris

FRENCH farmers are to receive emergency aid from the government to head off potential riots this week over losses following the crisis caused by mad cow disease.

The agriculture minister, Philippe Vasseur, will announce the compensation plan tomorrow during a cabinet meeting which will also decide French policy towards the ban on British beef exports before the European summit in Florence at the weekend.

Leaders of the national farmers' union, the FNSEA, and the young farmers' movement, CNJA, have called on members to demonstrate from Thursday until Sunday, partly in reaction to President Jacques Chirac's recent call for a better understanding of the British position.

Militant farmers have forced successive governments to make policy changes by blocking roads and besieging public buildings. But if they carry out their threat to take to the streets this time, it will mark a break in traditional solidarity with the Gaullist RFR movement.

Mr Vasseur's promise to offer compensation for falling sales and prices sounded like a pious measure. It was accompanied by an implicit rejection of Mr Chirac's plea to be more indulgent towards Britain.

According to the farmers' union leader, Luc Guyan, beef sales have fallen by 20 per cent in France although there have been only a few reported cases of mad cow disease. Wholesalers have also pushed down prices and many farmers could face bankruptcy.

The mad cow row has poisoned French parliamentary relations with the government and opposition, accusing each other of mishandling the issue. A parliamentary inquiry will apportion responsibility between the Socialist administration, which was ousted in 1993, and the Gaullist cabinet.

But the argument over past responsibility has contributed to a growing consensus for a hard line against Britain. The former budget minister, Nicolas Sarkozy, summed up the feeling in the Gaullist movement when he said the ban on British beef imports should remain total. He said that there were 160,000 cases in Britain compared with a few dozen in France.

A former prime minister, Raymond Barre, said a solution might not be found until there was a general election in Britain, while the most emotional response came from the leader of Les Verts, Dominique Voynet, who said mad cow disease was "an agricultural Chernobyl".

The president of the National Assembly, Philippe Seguin, called for a parliamentary "information mission" on mad cow disease, saying it was "high time to get over the polemical approach to this issue, which is obscuring the facts, and to study it clearly and realistically".

stepped out of a wedding reception. The police had arrived to arrest members of a local family involved in a brawl with neighbours.

But the incident turned into a confrontation when the police demanded the names and addresses of bystanders.

When stones and empty bottles were thrown in their direction, they responded by opening fire with live ammunition. Badwan died instantly after a bullet hit him in the cheek and exited through his neck. Four other villagers were wounded, one seriously.

"The main problem of the Palestinian police is that they open fire without justification," said Bassem Eid, a human rights activist. "When they shoot they should abide by certain regulations, otherwise it becomes useless. When there are no rules, as in the case with the Palestinian police, so many people can be injured or killed."

Earlier this year Mr Eid, a researcher for the Israeli human rights organisation

Arafat agrees to shooting inquiry

Siyam Bhatia in Biddo, West Bank

YASSER ARAFAT'S Palestinian Authority has bowed to domestic pressure by agreeing to hold an inquiry into the shooting of an unarmed young man in Biddo village, near Jerusalem.

The killing of Riad Badwan, aged 22, who was shot dead by police on Saturday, has fuelled the anger and concern of Palestinians who have started to describe Mr Arafat's regime as a dictatorship.

"Arafat's police are barbarians," said Abed Badwan, the victim's uncle. "They are not human beings. They should be here to protect us, not kill our children." He himself was severely beaten by police as he arrived at the nearby Ramallah hospital to identify the body of his nephew.

Witnesses said that Riad Badwan was shot by Palestinian police on the outskirts of his village shortly after he had

and the shooting had been completely unprovoked.

In Ramallah yesterday, dozens of Palestinians held a noisy demonstration to demand the release of Iyad al-Sarraj, the prominent human rights activist who was arrested a week ago.

Mr Sarraj, aged 53, a psychiatrist and a British national, is being held in Gaza's central prison on charges of assaulting a policeman. At his first court hearing last Thursday, he said he had been tortured by his Palestinian interrogators.

Mr Arafat ordered Mr Sarraj's arrest after the governor of the Bank of Israel, Yaskov Frenkel, who was yesterday tipped to become the new finance minister. Sources close to Mr Netanyahu say the ministry may now go to one of the four Likud party rebels, Dan Meridor, a former minister of justice. Mr Meridor is widely seen as a challenger for the party leadership before the next election.

massed near the 500-mile Syrian-Turkish frontier. Turkey's Anatolian news agency said Syrian and Turkish traders had seen Syrian armour taking up positions in northern Syrian towns. But Ankara said yesterday the troop movements were "isolated" and posed no threat.

The agency said there had been more bomb explosions in Syria recently, which it claimed were the work of Syria's Muslim Brotherhood.

Witnesses said the explosions were unsophisticated attempts to attract attention rather than cause casualties. One incident reportedly involved a hand grenade left in a rubbish bin.

Western diplomats said Syria's ability to control its internal security, with a level of repression that Amnesty International has frequently condemned, suggests strongly that any subversion is being organised from abroad.

They believe Turkish military intelligence is the most likely culprit. So, clearly, does Syria, whose security services have arrested about 600 ethnic Turks.

The bombs are thought to be retaliation for Syria's stepped-up backing of separatist Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) guerrillas. This, along with disputes over the Euphrates waters and Turkey's recent strategic co-operation pact with Israel, has brought Turkish-Syrian relations to a very low ebb.

Syria's key ally Iran is rallying to its side. An official in Tehran said yesterday that Ankara "doesn't seem to realise what problems its unlimited co-operation with Israel could bring it in the Arab world". The recent Saudi-Egyptian-Syrian summit also called on Turkey to reconsider the treaty.

The only Arab country undisturbed by Turkish-Syrian tensions is Jordan, which is engaged in acrimonious propaganda exchanges with Syria.

The Jordanian weekly al-Bilad has claimed 27 people were killed in a recent attempt to kill President Assad, his brother and son. It said the alleged coup — by Sunni officers — was planned with the help of the CIA, "in co-ordination with Ankara".

Defeated Nastase sees his future in politics

Reuter in Bucharest

THE Romanian former tennis star Ilie Nastase conceded defeat in elections for mayor of Bucharest yesterday but made it clear he had acquired a taste for politics.

Official results from Sunday's run-off vote put Victor Ciobea of the opposition Democratic Convention on 56.7 per cent to 43.3 per cent for the governing leftwing Party of Social Democracy (PDSR).

Although he was defeated, Mr Nastase has doubled the party vote and injected some life into a party associated with dour communists.

Mr Ciobea, a union official and lawyer, acknowledged the international attention and flair Mr Nastase had brought to the elections. "I want to thank the other candidates, especially Ilie Nastase, who brought colour to this campaign and drew international interest to our city," Mr Ciobea said.

The Bucharest election, part of national municipal and county polls, has been seen as a key test before parliamentary and presidential elections expected in early November.

Priebke trial judges accused

John Hooper in Rome

THE trial of the former SS officer Erich Priebke was thrown into confusion yesterday after allegations by the prosecution against the military judges hearing the case. The entire proceedings may now have to begin again.

The prosecuting counsel, Antonio Intelliano, asked in court for all three judges to be removed. He said he based his request on "a reported offence and events of considerable gravity", but did not say what they were.

A report on the state-owned RAI television network said one of the judges had said at the start of the trial that the verdict was already decided.

But other sources yesterday indicated that the alleged offence had been imputed to a court official.

Mr Intelliano said he would produce evidence in support of his petition, including a statement taken by police from a witness. It will then be up to the military appeal court to decide whether to proceed. The case was adjourned until July 10.

Yesterday's move by the prosecution was the latest bizarre development in what could well prove to be the last Nazi war crimes trial.

Earlier this month, Karl



Erich Priebke: Charged with killing 335 men

Hass, aged 84, another former SS officer who was to have been a key prosecution witness, was badly injured as he tried to flee from his hotel to avoid testifying.

He fell from the first floor balcony and later testified from a hospital bed. But his evidence was at odds with what he had previously told newspaper interviewers.

Priebke, aged 82, is charged with involvement in Italy's most infamous wartime reprisal — the killing of 335 men and boys at the Ardeatine Caves on the outskirts of Rome in 1944. He was extradited last year from Argentina.

His trial revolves around the issue of what would have happened if he had refused to take part in the massacre. His lawyers say he would have been shot for disobeying orders.

Herbert Kappler, Priebke's commanding officer in the SS, testified at his trial in 1948 that his subordinates would indeed have faced death. However, in an interview at most 30 years later with the Rome daily Il Tempo, he said he had lied to protect them.

Bombs in Damascus fuel fears of anti-Assad plots

David Hirst in Beirut and Ian Black in London

TENSIONS between Syria and Turkey, alleged troop movements near their borders, and bomb blasts in Damascus and elsewhere have reinforced widespread fears that President Hafez al-Assad is facing a growing campaign of pressure, propaganda and subversion.

The campaign, generally thought to be led by the United States and Israel, is bound to intensify after Benjamin Netanyahu's triumph in the Israeli elections.

US officials have been highly critical of Syria for its "unhelpful" reaction to the new rightwing Israeli government.

Damascus has protested that Israel, not Syria, has lurched into a new extremism, and that it is absurd for the US to call for a restraint from the Arab side that it does not seem to require from the Israelis.

At the weekend, the Saudi newspaper al-Hayat reported that 40,000 Syrian troops had

massed near the 500-mile Syrian-Turkish frontier. Turkey's Anatolian news agency said Syrian and Turkish traders had seen Syrian armour taking up positions in northern Syrian towns. But Ankara said yesterday the troop movements were "isolated" and posed no threat.

The agency said there had been more bomb explosions in Syria recently, which it claimed were the work of Syria's Muslim Brotherhood.

Witnesses said the explosions were unsophisticated attempts to attract attention rather than cause casualties. One incident reportedly involved a hand grenade left in a rubbish bin.

Western diplomats said Syria's ability to control its internal security, with a level of repression that Amnesty International has frequently condemned, suggests strongly that any subversion is being organised from abroad.

They believe Turkish military intelligence is the most likely culprit. So, clearly, does Syria, whose security services have arrested about 600 ethnic Turks.

The bombs are thought to be retaliation for Syria's stepped-up backing of separatist Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) guerrillas. This, along with disputes over the Euphrates waters and Turkey's recent strategic co-operation pact with Israel, has brought Turkish-Syrian relations to a very low ebb.

Syria's key ally Iran is rallying to its side. An official in Tehran said yesterday that Ankara "doesn't seem to realise what problems its unlimited co-operation with Israel could bring it in the Arab world". The recent Saudi-Egyptian-Syrian summit also called on Turkey to reconsider the treaty.

The only Arab country undisturbed by Turkish-Syrian tensions is Jordan, which is engaged in acrimonious propaganda exchanges with Syria.

The Jordanian weekly al-Bilad has claimed 27 people were killed in a recent attempt to kill President Assad, his brother and son. It said the alleged coup — by Sunni officers — was planned with the help of the CIA, "in co-ordination with Ankara".

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WHAT PC? July Issue Out Now

Any British government foolish enough to toy with exiting from the EU risks brutal punishment. Such risks are strangely absent from the deliberations of Eurosceptics.

John Gray

A lukewarm victory
Russia's future remains highly uncertain

BORIS YELTSIN's first-round victory was a close call, but a couple of percentage points make all the difference. If the margin had gone to Gennady Zyuganov, this would have been seen as a comprehensive verdict against the Russian president's shambolic and sometimes brutal leadership...

second-round electoral support. Mr Zyuganov now needs to broaden the message if he is to have any chance in a two-man race. The vote for Mr Yeltsin was not a positive endorsement of the president or of the mixed blessings of the free market...

A bottomless copper scandal

The answer is to have more effective regulation, but how?

THE FIRST lesson of the international copper scandal is that commodities are a global business without a global police force to monitor them. Money can be shifted around the world electronically to the British Virgin Isles via Bermuda by way of Guernsey and goodness knows where else...

group, Sumitomo which admits to losing \$1.8 billion over 10 years in unauthorised trades and others are said to be at the heart of a worldwide operation only parts of which have so far come to the surface. The solution - to have much more efficient regulation - is easier said than done...

Channel 4: a licence to cut taxes

Selling the company could undermine its successful culture

IT WAS inevitable that a government hell-bent on privatisation would try again with Channel 4. Earlier attempts failed because the new channel - dedicated to interests not catered for by ITV - was sufficiently respected across the political spectrum that a sale would have been counter-productive...

model for other companies but not under the Conservatives. C4 has sinned twice over; not only is it publicly owned but highly successful - a virus that should not be allowed to spread. C4 is far from perfect. Its chief executive has tempted fate by occasional forays into low taste and trivia...



Letters to the Editor

Lessons at the deep end

JENNY TURNER (Laura and Paul do profoundly. Weekend, June 8) writes that "in philosophical inquiry there is... no right answer to a question" and suggests this might lead to relativism and possibly the misuse of authority by the teacher who should be giving clear guidance...

out abstract ideas come to grips with notions of equity, justice, truth, reason and all the rest. But just see the growth in such groups, which how they take these skills and use them for the difficult practical world that they inhabit...

wrong for professional philosophers to reject the whole movement as irrelevant. Mary Midgley, 1a Collingwood Terrace, Newcastle on Tyne NE2 2JP. MS TURNER was right to expose the elite self-recruitment of a new wave of philosophers, which does not sit well with the supposedly egalitarian teaching principles the specialist facilitators employ...

Sisters fall out over sons and daughters

IN HER enthusiasm to be reinforced by her happily childless sisters of the future, self-confessed feminist writer Joan Smith (Women, June 17) falls into the dreary trap of denigrating the choices and aspirations of the vast numbers of us who have chosen to have kids here and now.

between children and a career, a choice that men have never been forced to make. It is also said that the other, equally valid reasons for remaining childless remain unacknowledged, and that those of us who simply don't want children continue to be seen by many as selfish or odd or to be pitied. So many people, men and women, drift into parenthood because it seems the obvious thing to do...

Where is the fun? Where are the emotional rewards? Where is the passion that motivates some of us (along with our partners) to combine work and kids with an optimism that defies social trends, the absence of comprehensive child-care provision and the triumph of hope over good sense? Sue Garland, Managing editor, EMAP Egan Parenting, 14 Leicester Place, London WC2H 7BP.

A rational, informed choice will never be ours while the shapers of society continue to regard motherhood as women's raison d'être. Laura Woodruff, 2 Cotswold Rise, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan. FEMINIST commentators are tending to express sadness at what they see as the unnecessary renunciation of maternity by many women. If maternity is seen as a matter of choice and the "maternal instinct" is experienced only by a proportion of women, their sadness is misplaced...

I AM worried by Jenny Turner's conclusion that this kind of disciplined practice in discussion has no connection with real adult philosophy. Of course children's arguments are not the same as the discussions of university students. But the latter is a child's eager participation when his or her parents are mending the garage just like the work which that child may do later as an engineering student...

SO ROGER Scruton threw Sophie's World into the wastepaper basket because its contents were "pedophilic" and "nauseous". What really bugs so many academic philosophers about this book is that it possesses a vitality and clarity of exposition their own writings so sadly lack. I Morgan, 26 May Crescent, Lincoln LN1 1LP.

public view as commercially confidential. The Government has refused to set a proper national framework for the location of these plants and industries has relied on the market, in which the needs of local communities are not represented, to improve conditions. It is ironic that the Government, having allowed the renderers to produce the animal protein which caused BSE, is now subsidising them to dispose of culled cattle. It is scandalous that local authorities have still not been given full details of this programme and yet will have to cope with the nuisance caused.

YOU state that the proportion of women who remain childless is expected to double "as growing numbers decide to put their careers first" (Twice as many childless women as population falls, June 14). While for many women this may be the reason, for others it is a positive choice unrelated to career aspirations. I do not want children because I do not want children. It is said that any woman should have to choose between...

at the top table he'll hardly be in a pivotal position to argue for the continued financial security of Radios 1, 2, 3 and 4. And that's how John Birt wants it. If he is to afford his glorious "digital world-player" future he's going to need a lot of radio's cash. As it is, BBC radio costs almost half the licence fee of the nation's social and cultural fabric. It has very little revenue-earning potential. So either it will have to learn how to get by on an awful lot less or offer up bits of itself to the ultimate sacrifice. Stephen McKenna, Flat 2, 86 Station Road, London N3 2SQ.

Rendered angry

IT IS not just in Kent that there is nuisance from small and medium processing plants (BSA waste sprayed on land, June 11). In Lancashire, residents have had to endure the appalling stench that the local plant can emit for 30 years as well as the small and occasional spillages from lorries bringing putrefying material to the plant.

ACME RENDERING LTD. THE LAND HE ALWAYS WANTED TO BE WITH HIS HOoves ON...

dalous that local authorities have still not been given full details of this programme and yet will have to cope with the nuisance caused. The Government has a responsibility to see that the plants operate in an environmentally acceptable way. That means tighter regulation and relocation away from residential areas. (Cllr) Ian Barker, Lancaster City Council, 32 Derwent Road, Lancaster LA1 3ES.

Now on Radio 4, a few shrieks

I AM getting a little weary at the Guardian's dismissal of the voice of protest at recent changes in the BBC as the "shriek of Middle England" (A radio star to watch, June 17). If there is a shriek in the air it is in direct proportion to the threat facing BBC radio under the recently announced restructuring proposals. At the heart of the changes is an inordinately desperate attempt to slash the running costs of the corporation so that it can afford its "digital and multiplex" future. That means there will be winners and losers.

commentary and time-faults were awarded. One handler, identified as Simon, almost straddled his pig, shielding its vision from distraction on the left, and nudging its rear and right side with the crook. "You don't argue with Simon," said the commentator. Most of the handlers adopted the cautious tactic of crawling through the tunnel behind the pig, but one sent his pig in and stroled alongside. It is over-confidence was the reason the pig contrived to turn in the restricted space and emerge at the start end to loud applause. The NFU and our MEP were holding conferences and serious business was being done, but the general impression was of something like an old-fashioned derby. The commentator revealed that the pig-handler was "the Reverend Simon". A pig-handling West Country person seemed just right alongside the whirring sheep-shearers and clanging blacksmiths. JOHN VALLINS

On that affair

I AM very disappointed by the Guardian's treatment of the Daily Mail's unjustified intrusion into the private life of the columnist Polly Toynbee. Last Monday, you gave Paul Dacre, editor of the Daily Mail, plenty of space to put over a tendentious defence of his paper's behaviour, two days before the Daily Mail ran an attack on Polly Toynbee by her lover's estranged wife. Then last Friday Bel Littlejohn was at her most snide as Polly Toynbee's expense. The only redeeming feature of the Guardian's coverage has been this Monday's hard-boiled account by Roy Greenslade of what he calls "affaire Toynbee". I was not surprised that the Times chose to reprint the Daily Mail article verbatim (after all, it is doing its best to become more like the Daily Mail), but I expected at least to see the Guardian line up with the Independent in defence of decent journalism. Or is circulation all that matters? Giles Radice MP, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA.

John's song

YOUR coverage of John Prescott's speech at Ruskin College (Failure Prescott slurs elite schools, June 14) failed to mention the stage-managed nature of his lecture. I attended the lecture. Prescott's speech consisted of generalisations laced with anecdotes and soundbites. He carefully avoided specific policies, such as class size or funding for mature students. Questions were not permitted. Those on the left who see Prescott as a counterbalance to Tony Blair should take note. The audience learned nothing about New Labour's education policy but a great deal about the way in which the party stifles debate. Bob Hayes, Ruskin College, Walton Street, Oxford OX1 2HE. Please include a full postal address and daytime telephone number, even in e-mailed letters. We regret we cannot acknowledge receipt of letters. We may edit them, shorter ones are more likely to appear.

High on hope

YOU wrongly imply that those who use Ecstasy risk illnesses similar to Parkinson's disease (Brain damage warning to Ecstasy users, June 18). You appear to be misreading the British Medical Journal editorial, which mentioned Parkinson's disease-like damage in connection with another drug. A slimy drug, d-fenfluramine, was recently approved by the US Food and Drug Administration for lifetime use after an expert committee decided that the risks were low compared to the benefits. This is relevant, as most evidence that Ecstasy may cause long-term damage originates from Dr George Ricaurte, who believes that fenfluramine and MDMA (Ecstasy) are identical neurotoxins. There is no evidence that Ecstasy use is without long-term risk. But research costing millions of dollars has failed to find functional damage, so the risks are probably lower than believed. Nicholas Saunders, 14 Neal's Yard, London WC2H 9DP.

A Country Diary

SOMERSET: There was little evidence of gloom as Somerset's agricultural community set out its stall at the Bath and West Show. Beyond the glistening Ferraris, Range-Rovers and space-age farm machinery, and the tents full of waxed coats, saddlery and jodhpurs, were the Dartmoor pony class, the cheese pavilion and the parade of goats. The great, champion Charolais bulls, combed and cosseted, sprawled, untroubled by CAP regulations, on beds of clean straw. There were pigs of immense size, superior beasts and stars of the show circuit, yawning at the boredom of it all. But it was the pig-handlers' competition ("one man and his pig") that specially caught our eye. Each man, armed with a wooden shield in his left hand and a short batten or crook in his right, attempted to guide his pig through a slalom of stakes and a fabric tunnel, over a ramp and a jump, into a pen, and then along the finishing straight. There was a Hickstead-style

Diary
Matthew Norman
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John Prescott

Diary
Matthew Norman

WHILE the Birthday Honours headlines surrounded George Martin's knighthood, the Diary's attention was grabbed by a more obscure award... the honouring of retired Daily Mail photographer Monty Fresco with the MBE.

I AM astonished by a new drawing of Boris the Jackal Johnson (it goes above his Monday Telegraph column) that gives him the aspect of a pantomime gangster.

Music is the food of love, few will be surprised to learn of the serenading condom. Invented by Hungarian Ferenc Kovacs, it starts to play once the device is unrolled, and users may choose between two tunes.

THE Diary is close to issuing a libel writ against Michael Winner. He recently wrote to the editor, contesting a report that he once told a TV reporter how his late mother spent 10 years suing him.

PETER Bottomley, the excitable MP for Eitham, is the subject of an important new book. Bottomley The Brave, by Peter Harris and Doffy Weir, relates how a ginger cat (Bottomley) falls two burglars (that's the bravery).

THE University of Huddersfield has suffered a fiscal reverse. It has scrapped 65,000 glossy student prospectuses because the map on the back page shows the M6, rather than the M25.



How to attract a better class of MP

Commentary Hugo Young

AT the moment when politicians are held in lower esteem than ever before, they're about to be recommended for the highest pay-rise anyone has ever suggested.

The case is good in both equity and economics. MPs' pay is no higher in real terms than it was in 1964, since when the real incomes of the population at large have risen more than 80 per cent.

not deter the anti-politician brigade, which is already preparing the headlines to blast such over-fed, self-important, good-for-nothing free-loaders back into the stone age public penury where they belong.

Castaway UK

Suddenly, Eurosceptics are talking openly about quitting the EU. John Gray outlines the consequences that could make us the Puerto Rico of Europe

THE Home Secretary has announced the building of three further "super-max" high-security prisons, privately owned and operated, to house young offenders imprisoned under the "three strikes" policy.

through, which no self-respecting legislator would ever allow. The poll tax and the Child Support Agency were two. Education bills have shot through the assembly of the nation at hysterical, ill-considered speed.

One specific reform, which would help to make legislators worth their money, would be the amalgamation of select and standing committees, to permit the proper, non-legislative, expert scrutiny of wild schemes dreamed up.

They should only get the money when they've shown they're willing to take the power

being proposed by the European Council and Commission is utterly inadequate. In all the sanctimonious whingeing about the power of "Europe", note should also be taken of the absence of any parliamentary will in London to build the structures and make the sacrifices to do anything about it.

devaluation. A succession of old-fashioned sterling crises could leave the pound parading as a second-rate Asian currency which see Britain as a point of entry into European markets might redirect their investments elsewhere.

THE attractions for the right of leaving the EU are not in the end economic. They are political. The Tory right perceives that European institutions are a major threat to the Thatcherite objective of reshaping Britain in the image of US capitalism.

It does not appear to have noticed that the Reaganite capitalism which it seeks to import into Britain has become a political liability in the US itself. Nor has it paused to ask what interest the US, which has always been a supporter of European integration, would have in a post-European Britain.

For the Conservative Party electoral base on the other hand, flirting with withdrawal amounts with dangers. Despite their real doubts about European institutions, voters preoccupied with economic insecurity will not tolerate the risks of leaving the EU.

Even most hard-core Tory Eurosceptics refused to countenance the possibility of Britain's pulling out from the EU altogether. They talked — as John Redwood, curiously, still talks — of repatriating powers lost by Britain to European institutions. They sought to restore British control over its waters and fisheries. They rallied against the powers of the European Court of Justice. Some favoured an Act of Supremacy in which Parliament's authority to revise and reject European legislation would be re-asserted.

Like many other former wets, notably the Foreign Secretary, Malcolm Rifkind, Waldegrave was taking out insurance against a further rightward turn in the Tory Party in the wake of electoral defeat. But his statement also expresses the logic of the stance of hostility to European institutions taken

At the court of the Russian kingmaker



Norman Stone

WITH the rise of General Lebed, the Russian Revolution has revealed its true colours: it has not been a 1789 at all, with barricades bestridden and New Dawn proclaimed.

With the results of Russia's election coming in, we can see that the West's one-time hero, Gregor Yavlinsky, has got nowhere. Time was when he, scanning a Moscow full of United Colors and the like, could smugly say that capitalism and democracy had swept all before them.

THE sources of his strength are obvious enough: the "efficient part" of the demoralised soldiers. The armed forces may not wish to take power — how could they? Running their own show has been a disaster.

General Lebed acquired such things. You had to learn elements of Leninism, is technique of power, and to know when people should be browbeaten, and when they should be bought, and when they should be divided.

Advertisement for 'Betrayal of Trust' by Vernon Coleman. Text: 'Why doctors do more harm than good'. We believe that if you care about your health and your family you MUST read this amazing book! Betrayal of Trust by Vernon Coleman. Have doctors & drug companies betrayed patients? Dr Vernon Coleman is one of our most enlightened, trenchant and sensitive dispensers of medical advice. (The Observer)

Sir Fitzroy Maclean

Intrepid hero of our time

BRIGADIER Sir Fitzroy Maclean, one of the grand romantic heroes of the wartime epoch...

shot by the more vigilant functionaries, he came by a unique first-hand knowledge of the Eastern Soviet Union.

plained, 'It was a good thing to be in... We could operate in the desert first of all, then in Southern and Eastern Europe'.

Brigadier Maclean proceeded to the Special Operations Executive, Britain's elite group set up by Churchill to propel resistance movements in Nazi-occupied territories.

Maclean was despatched on Churchill's personal authority, literally parachuting into the savage Yugoslav interior.



Maclean said Tito had the gift of convincing people in total despair that everything would be all right

seated at Lancaster with the uniform of his father's regiment, the Cameron Highlanders...

The regiment was also a place of dressage for Maclean's real area of interest, in Egypt he had already met David Stirling...

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Maclean making a speech in Serbo-Croat at a meeting in 1970 with the Yugoslav prime minister, Mitja Ribicic

devising manoeuvres to hamper the Nazi occupation and later harass the retreat.

Maclean's campaign was a clear inspiration for the greatest war thriller of them all, Alistair Maclean's Guns of Navarone.

It was also a bloody affair, as the partisans took revenge upon their Croatian opponents (Tito was himself a Croat), with the massacre at Belburg in 1945.

Maclean took his place beside Tito in the parade that followed the battle of Belgrade, one of the very last that witnessed — as did Maclean himself — a charge by the mounted Soviet horse artillery.

Maclean was awarded the Partisan Star, First Class. Out of the Yugoslav war came

more books: Yugoslavia and The Battle of the Neretva.

Just as Tito's Yugoslavia became a bridge of sorts across the iron curtain, so Maclean became a bridge between the Marshall and Western leaders, introducing Tito to Margaret Thatcher and Prince Charles.

Maclean never lost his intrepid, debonair air. He loved to entertain at his house on the Adriatic island of Korcula, birthplace of Marco Polo.

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Hella Piek adds: Fitzroy Maclean was already a legend when I first met him in Belgrade in the late 1960s.

Physically and mentally larger than life, his enthusiasm for Yugoslavia was infectious.

Given his wartime exploits with Tito and his partisans, it was hardly surprising that he held the Yugoslav leader in deep admiration.

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took a group of British journalists, uninvited, to attend the wedding of Fitzroy's son in Korcula.

We arrived just as the bride and groom walked out of the church in procession through the old town.

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Jean Gimpel

All guns firing in the literary salon

JEAN Gimpel, who has died aged 78, was a dynamic Frenchman who for 30 years conducted one of the most enlightening literary salons in London.

too dogmatically to conceal his or her lack of education, the second retreated from open argument and the third, more astutely, never opened his mouth.

Regarded by his friends as immortal, he was driven by an inexhaustible energy and zest for life.

Born in Paris of Franco-British parents, he claimed that he escaped the limitations of university by falling his baccalauréat. A high-powered auto-didact, he went into business, tired of capitalist avarice, became a socialist and turned to research, writing and publicity.

He believed that autodidacts belonged to one of three classes. The first talked



Gimpel... zest for learning

In The Cult of Art he considered any work of art which did not "contribute" to social wellbeing to be "an expense of paint, ink, a waste of frames."

was fraudulent. "The dealers who drive the hardest bargains," he added "are often the artists themselves."

As for Picasso, his definition of the western artist as a disgrace to our civilisation and a proof of its spiritual decline. "In France alone," he wrote, "more stone was quarried in three centuries than during the entire history of ancient Europe."

The Medieval Machine (1976) became a classic and was translated into 12 languages. The book demonstrated that during the entire history of the Middle Ages there was a continuing industrial revolution which included water wheels, treadmills and windmills.

medieval technology worked and could be used today.

The Cathedral Builders, published in 1988, was an account of medieval architects' work, focusing on the stimulus of new invention and the power of religious inspiration to meet the needs of a remarkable age.

Maclean was despatched on Churchill's personal authority, literally parachuting into the savage Yugoslav interior.

and Croix de Guerre. He would relate how the first time he handled a firearm and deeply uneasy about shooting anybody, he levelled his gun at two German agents.

Gimpel was a warm, generous ebullient man. He was also a rich man (his grandfather left him a number of acres in the Cotswolds) who spent his money freely.

Maclean was despatched on Churchill's personal authority, literally parachuting into the savage Yugoslav interior.

Letter

Peter Porteous writes: Margaret Rawlings (obituary, June 6) spoke up for the actor's rights through Equity, and on the few occasions I met her she was wonderfully warm and encouraging in this most discouraging of professions.

Birthdays

Eva Bartok, actress, 87; Michael Blakemore, theatre director, 68; Fernando Henrique Cardoso, president of Brazil, 65; Ian Carmichael, actor, 76; Patricia Hutchinson, former ambassador to Uruguay, 70; Sir Dennis Laufer, former chief executive, Co-operative Wholesale Society, 68; Paul McCartney, singer, songwriter and former Beatle, 54; Isabella Rossellini, actress, 44; Delia Smith, television cook, 55.

Death Notices

FISHLOCK, Dr Don, of 7 Priory Gardens, Highgate, London N6, on June 4th past, after a long illness, aged 82. Mother of Katherine and Timothy, grandmothers of Beatrice and Stan. Cremation at St. Mary's Church, Littlemore, Oxford, on Thursday June 20th at 2.00 pm. Flowers by request. Donations to the M.S. Society, 25 Elm Road, London SW11 6JH.

Maclean was despatched on Churchill's personal authority, literally parachuting into the savage Yugoslav interior.

Jackdaw



one month later grew a different salmonella species, S havana. Despite a second course of ciprofloxacin in October, S havana was still isolated from stool samples in late November, 1994.

menchen and S hagenbeck subspecies 2 from the chuck-walla, and S reading and S havana from the bearded dragons.

IN JUNE, 1994, a white man, aged 18 years, who worked for a large food producer, developed a diarrhoeal illness. Stool samples being initially diagnosed as a boil, a course of fluoxacinil was prescribed by his general practitioner. After 4 days treatment, diarrhoea developed and a stool sample was automatically requested by his employers.

the unholy trinity of Parmenidean/Platonic/Aristotelean provenance; of the Cartesian-Lockean-Humean-Kantian paradigm, of foundationalisms (in practice, fideistic foundationalism) and irrationalisms (in practice, capricious exercises of the will-to-power or some other ideologically and/or psychosomatically buried source) new and old alike: of the primordial falling of western philosophy, ontological monovalence, and its close ally, the epistemic fallacy with its ontic dualism of the analytic problematic laid down by Plato, which Hegel served only to replicate in his actualist monovalent analytic reinstatement in transfigurative reconciling dialectical connection, while in his hubristic claims for absolute idealism he inaugurated the Comtean, Kierkegaardian and Nietzschean eclipses of reason, replicating the foundations of positivism through its transmutation route to the super-idealism of a Baudrillard."

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ment of non-construction, disclosing the absence of actuality from the concept in part through its invitation to emphasize, in reading, the helplessness — rather than the will to power — of its fall into conceptuality."

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Maclean was despatched on Churchill's personal authority, literally parachuting into the savage Yugoslav interior.

Advertisements on the right margin including 'The supersto', 'ING', 'COPPER CRISIS', 'Nerves sh...', 'prices gyr...', 'in London', 'Radio rationed to fund digital viewing', 'Death Notices', 'In Memoriam', 'Sweetly mad', 'Jackdaw', 'Lizard love', 'Bad writing', 'New Scientist', 'Emily Sheffield'.

Handwritten signature or mark at the bottom center.

Financial Editor: Alex Brummer
Telephone: 0171-239-9610
Fax: 0171-833-4456

Finance Guardian

ING refuses to help inquiry

COPPER CRISIS

Nerves show as prices gyrate in London

Patrick Donovan, Paul Murphy and Dan Atkinson

DUTCH bank ING has refused official requests to hand over a confidential business plan about the activities of



Winchester Commodities to agencies investigating allegations of a worldwide copper fraud. ING was given the document when it was asked by Winchester to consider handling the commodity group's settlement business in 1993. Sources say that agencies investigating the alleged fraud believe the document could give insight into trading relationships between key players in the copper market. There is no suggestion that Winchester was involved in improper dealings. The request to ING's derivatives subsidiary has been made as part of an increasingly complicated investigation into the background of the alleged fraud perpetrated on the Chilean state copper company, Codelco, and Sumitomo, the Japanese trading group which last week shocked the market by announcing losses of £1.2 billion. Winchester was cleared by the Securities and Futures Au-

TO: DAVID
FR: PAUL SCULLY
RE: SUMI OPTIONS

I HAVE TO RAISE THIS SUBJECT AGAIN BECAUSE I NOW FIRMLY BELIEVE THINGS ARE OUT OF CONTROL. THIS MORNING LONDON DID ANOTHER VERY LARGE OPTION TRADE ON BEHALF OF SUMI VIA MURPHY METALS, PRESUMABLY LAID OFF ON BEHALF OF HAYDEN (MURPHY CLAIMS TO DISCLOSE THE SOURCE OF THE BUSINESS FROM HAYDEN. THAT MAY WELL BE TRUE, I HAVE NO OPINION). LEAVING ASIDE ENTIRELY THE GENERAL PROBLEMS I HAVE WITH THIS TYPE OF TRADING, I.E., IT AMOUNTS TO SELLING OR BUYING VERY LARGE TONNAGE ON A SINGLE QUOTE WITH WHAT SEEMS TO BE INSUFFICIENT MARGIN. THERE IS ANOTHER MORE SERIOUS PROBLEM, IN ESSENCE WE SEEM TO BE MAKING LARGE CONTRIBUTIONS TO HAYDEN, TAKING NOTHING FOR OURSELVES. I SUSPECTED AS MUCH WITH THE PREVIOUS TRADES BUT BECAUSE OF THE SPREADS, STRIKES ETC. THAT COULD ONLY BE A SUSPICION. THIS IS NO LONGER THE CASE.

I WISH TO EMPHASISE THAT I DO NOT BELIEVE ANYONE IN OUR LONDON IS DOING ANYTHING DELIBERATELY WRONG. I AM AFRAID I HAVE TO SAY THAT THEY SIMPLY DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT IT IS THEY ARE DOING. I BELIEVE THIS MORNING'S TRADES DEMONSTRATE THIS QUITE CLEARLY.

How US broker Paul Scully expressed his concerns over copper transaction

thority recently of any irregular dealings with Codelco. An ING spokeswoman last night said: "I understand that Winchester did put up a business plan some time ago". She confirmed that ING's derivatives operation received an official request for sight of the Winchester papers. However, "access was refused on the grounds that it was a private matter". Winchester Commodities said yesterday it was happy to co-operate with any investigation. It declined to comment further. Winchester and other big players in the copper market are understood to be helping investigators shed light on irregular trades. Investigators are also looking at documents detailing trades by Yasuo Hamanaka, the trader sacked by Sumitomo, and other major copper traders. One example is a report prepared by the US broker DLT and sent to the SFA in March 1992. The document, which has been seen by the Guardian, was written in the spring of that year by Paul Scully, an American broker at the London branch of his firm, DLT. Headed "Sumi Options", the document details a complex copper transaction between four parties: Sumitomo and DLT on one side; Hayden, a London trading firm, and Murphy Metals, a Midlands-based trading entity, on the other. DLT's London office at the time was staffed by a Winchester director, Charles Vincent, and Paul Shutter, who until recently worked with Mr Vincent at Winchester Commodities. Their contact at Hayden was Mr Vincent's future business partner, Ashley Levett, while Murphy Metals was run by Bernard Murphy, a solicitor who is now thought to be in Portugal.

It explains how terms of the deal - involving 20,000 tonnes of copper, worth £50 million - were heavily weighted in favour of Hayden and Murphy - for no apparent reason. "I have to raise this subject again because I now firmly believe things are out of control," Mr Scully writes. "This morning London did another very large option trade on behalf of Sumi via Murphy Metals, presumably laid off on Bernie at Hayden (sic) ... In essence, we seem to be making large contributions to Hayden, taking nothing for ourselves. I suspected as much with the previous trades but, because of the spreads, strikes, etc. that could only be a suspicion. This is no longer the case. "I wish to emphasise that I do not believe anyone in our London office is doing anything deliberately wrong. I am afraid I have to say that they simply don't understand what it is they are doing." Mr Scully goes on to question the logic behind the deal, adding: "Does that logic justify the expense to our client?" At the end of the day, Sumi paid \$32 over the offer to buy 340 lots of Sept. Of that \$32, Ldn (London) received \$10 and took 100 per cent of the risk on the metal price and the spread. Murphy/Hayden received \$22 and a minor risk. Copper prices gyrated wildly in London yesterday, hitting new lows during the day but closing higher than on Friday.

Notebook

Curate's egg in the nuclear nest



Edited by Alex Brummer

IT IS unfortunate that the more than one million investors who have registered to buy a stake in British Energy, the nuclear generator, have not been afforded the chance to see the legal review by Clifford Chance. The report, forwarded to British Energy and the Government on April 25 this year, provides a great deal of detail on some of the issues not fully explained in the prospectus. Among the reasons for committing funds to British Energy is the belief that it, like other utilities, will be able to drive down costs and improve income by efficiencies such as lowering manpower levels. However, the Clifford Chance report makes it clear that in the case of the nuclear industry, reducing skilled manpower levels can lead to reactor problems as has been the case at Hunterston B. Whereas in other parts of the privatised sector, such as National Grid, there are many contractors capable of making repairs to power lines, the same does not apply in British Energy. Clifford Chance notes that a "side effect of reduction in manpower could be an increase in events leading to contractor error". Since 60 per cent of events at nuclear power stations are caused by human error, cutting back staffing to impress the City hardly seems wise. In fact, far from being a steady utility investment, the publicly quoted nuclear generator, without other businesses to dilute the risk, could be volatile. Each time there is a safety scare the shares of British Energy could skid. Similarly, should unfavourable publicity develop regarding the incidence of cancer among the workforce, fears of compensation claims could arise. The point is that Nuclear Energy is not an industry like any other. Because much of the UK nuclear industry is of British design there is no pool of skilled practitioners there for contracting out work when older, experienced members of the workforce are made redundant. Neither the company nor the stock market have much experience of dealing with the impact on the share price should there be a technical mishap, such as the rod refuelling incident at Heysham in January of this year. Despite the promise of a generous dividend, this does not make for an alluring share issue.

This time around, as the company clocked up £1.1 billion at pre-tax level, the only sound from the construction industry is a collective groan. One key factor for the change, according to chairman and chief executive Brian Moffat - just knighted for his services to the industry - is that British Steel, unlike some of its rivals, can now compete in most of the world's markets. Even yesterday's cautionary note about this year's profits carried the caveat that they will still be "satisfactory". Redundant steel workers (remember Ravenscraig?) will feel that the price Britain's steel industry has paid for its global competitiveness has been a high one. But Sir Brian would no doubt counter by arguing that those European steel industries which have shirked restructuring will, in the end, pay a higher price. Each time the industry sees an upturn, those dependent on state aid fall further behind their private sector counterparts, he reckons. The question is where British Steel goes from here. It is strong in its home market, competitive in Europe and developing a coherent strategy in the US. The snag is the Far East. It is almost axiomatic that big manufacturing industry wants to be active in its fast-growing economies. For British Steel, finding the right partners, according to Brian Moffat, is proving tricky. With few exceptions, steel companies are either large and state-owned or family-run and on the smaller side. Still, the reluctance of British Steel to signal a share buy-back indicates that it may be keeping its cash in its back pocket for a reason.

Air reward

IT IS now clear how far Sainsbury's is behind Tesco - 18 months. That is how long Tesco has been running its loyalty card, which was matched by its rival's launch of the Reward scheme. Sainsbury's argues that it has used the time to develop unique added value that cannot be matched by other retailers. But the link with Air Miles seems merely another spending option, which leaves the Reward card as merely the "electronic Green Shield stamps" David Sainsbury decried when Tesco entered the loyalty business. The fact that Sainsbury's has been forced to climb down must be embarrassing, but it does offer hope that the chain can reverse its recent slide. It illustrates that the arrogance, ignorance or conservatism which left the company trailing in Tesco's wake have been overcome. Sainsbury's is back with new, creative ideas. It is still playing catch-up, however, and will continue to do so for some time. On the loyalty front, Tesco has moved on with a payment card, and by the time Sainsbury's joins that game, it will have moved on again. More fundamentally, Sainsbury's is also struggling to recover lost ground in store presentation and operation, product ranges and many other areas of the business.

Radio rationed to fund digital viewing

Nicholas Bannister Technology Editor

THE Government is set to help fund the switch to digital television with cash raised from new licence charges for radio frequencies. Proposals for managing the radio spectrum - the range of frequencies available for broadcasting - outlined in a white paper yesterday, are expected to raise an extra £70 million a year. Digital TV broadcasting, expected to start towards the end of next year, uses much less of the radio spectrum than do today's analogue TV signals. Ministers said the Government might make selective payments to encourage the switch to digital TV, although these were most likely to be to help companies move to other parts of the spectrum or make better use of frequencies. They did not, however, rule out limited indirect help for consumers who will have to buy either a special set-top box or a new television to receive the digital signals. Ian Taylor, science and technology minister, said there would be a case for buying out the "tail" of analogue TV users - once the bulk of viewers had switched - because this would free frequencies for other activities. But the Government intends to use the new charges for radio licences as the main method of persuading companies to make better use of the spectrum. Trade and Industry Secretary Ian Lang said the spectrum was a finite resource and digital broadcasting offered the prospect of considerable spectrum efficiency gains. Ministers are keen to see a swift changeover and to avoid a repeat of protracted switch from 405-line to 625-line television. The white paper proposes a market-forces system for charging for radio licences, which are used by local taxi services, mobile phone operators and broadcasters, among others. At present, the charges are geared only to cover the Radiocommunications Agency's costs in administering the spectrum. Higher charges are now proposed for scarce frequencies or those most in



Knight in shining helmet... British Steel boss Brian Moffat on a visit to Llanwern Steelworks at Newport, South Wales PHOTOGRAPH: JEFFREY MORGAN

Record profits at British Steel top £1 bn

Mark Milner

BITISH Steel yesterday unveiled record results but cautioned that this year's profits would be affected by the current weak state of demand in Europe. Despite the impact that would have on prices, however, the company's chairman and chief executive, Brian Moffat, said that the performance of the current year was expected to be "satisfactory". In the year to the end of March British Steel's pre-tax

profits soared from £578 million to £1.1 billion, while the dividend pay-out for the year is being raised by a third to 10p a share. Strong cash flow helped boost British Steel's net funds to £690 million at the year end but, despite the strength of the balance sheet, Mr Moffat played down suggestions of a share buy-back. The message from senior executives yesterday was that the company would much prefer to use its financial strength to grow the business rather than give the money back to shareholders. "We have said that our

main objective... is to look for ways and means to invest and expand the business," said Mr Moffat, whose knighthood for services to the steel industry was announced in the Queen's birthday honours list. In the UK, British Steel managed to push up its market share from 36 per cent to 38 per cent. UK steel imports from the European Union fell as a result of the weakness of the pound against the German mark, but imports from other areas increased. British Steel's exports to both Europe and the rest of

the world showed an increase over the previous year, but the company said that in both cases the increase was due to acquisitions. In the US, two of British Steel's three projects - at Tuscaloosa Steel and Trico Steel - are due to be commissioned later this year, though the third, at Mobile, Alabama, is behind schedule. The company's ambitions to expand in the Asia Pacific region are not proving easy to achieve. "We continue to devote significant time and effort in considering possible joint ventures, but the de-

tailed evaluation of proposals and the building up of the appropriate relationships with local partners is, inevitably, a lengthy process," said Mr Moffat. Looking ahead, the British Steel chairman said he believed the current phase of destocking in mainland Europe was coming to an end. But he cautioned: "Inevitably, with the present weakness in market demand in Europe and the accompanying impact on prices, profits for the current year will be adversely affected, but I still expect a year of satisfactory performance."

Ostrich farm with no birds 'raked in millions from public'

THE largest ostrich breeding organisation in Britain which took millions of pounds from investors, was a pyramid-selling exercise which was "bound to fail", a High Court judge was told yesterday. Philip Heslop QC said the Ostrich Farming Corporation had no farms or ostriches of its own and members of the public were paying more than £4 million a month for birds which were either dead or non-existent. Money was being filtered off to "shadowy offshore" companies and marketing groups unconnected with the business, he said. Mr Heslop said the company was obtaining money

Scots brewery floats to market on 'despised keg'

BELHAVEN Brewery may be best-known among the ale-drinking classes for its super-authentic 80-shilling cask beer, but it will float next month on a tidal-wave of the much-despised gas-powered "keg". More than 70 per cent of its beer sales during 1995/96 were down to the sort of sludges unavailable at Campaign for Real Ale open evenings. Nor does Scotland's largest regional brewery display any taverological correctness with its tied estate; of its eight managed houses, three are "themed" into a "novel Scottish pub environment" and two are described as "high volume, community public houses". Indeed, by the time Aleman has reached page 13 of Belhaven's pathfinder prospectus, published yesterday, with its boasts of "semi-automatic fermentation and chilling controls", he will be chewing his fishermen's guernsey in fury. Scotland does not share the real-ale enthusiasm of its southern neighbour; cask beers take just 5 per cent of sales in Scots pubs, against 15 per cent in England. But keg ale, at 32 per cent, is hard on the heels of lager, at 41 per cent. Founded in 1719, Belhaven is Scotland's oldest brewery; its owners have included Miss World pro-

ducer Eric Morley and Nazmu Virani, the high-flyer who fell to earth because of his involvement with Bank of Credit and Commerce International. The present management took charge in 1993, and next month's return to the market will value the company - whose profits before tax rose 6 per cent to £2.7 million in 1995/96 - at about £20 million. But Belhaven will not be ditching its real ale, although they will become more expensive; "repositioned", in the jargon, "towards the premium end of the market through an increase in... alcoholic strength". As Belhaven's own adverts put it, "smooth beyond belief".

Man of steel

LAST time British Steel made record profits demand from Britain's construction sector was booming.

UK rebuffed on open skies pact

Julie Wolf in Brussels

THE UK suffered another rebuff at the hands of its European partners yesterday when EU transport ministers overrode British opposition and agreed to allow Neil Kinnock, the European Trade Commissioner, to begin talks with the US on the liberalisation of air services. But the mandate agreed by the Ministers at a meeting in Luxembourg was only a first step towards giving the European Commission the power to conclude a full EU-US "open skies" pact. Initially talks between Brussels and Washington will cover rights such as computer reservation systems, dispute settlement, bankruptcy and ownership rules. Mr Kinnock will need to obtain further authorisation from the Ministers for negotiations on access to flight routes and airport slots. "This is a regrettable decision. But we are pleased we managed to limit its scope," said Transport Secretary Sir George Young. "The UK continues to believe air service agreement negotiations with the US are best undertaken by national governments." Singapore Airlines yesterday called for "open skies" for other airlines above the US and Britain to redress the balance following last week's announcement of a proposed link-up between British Airways and American Airlines.

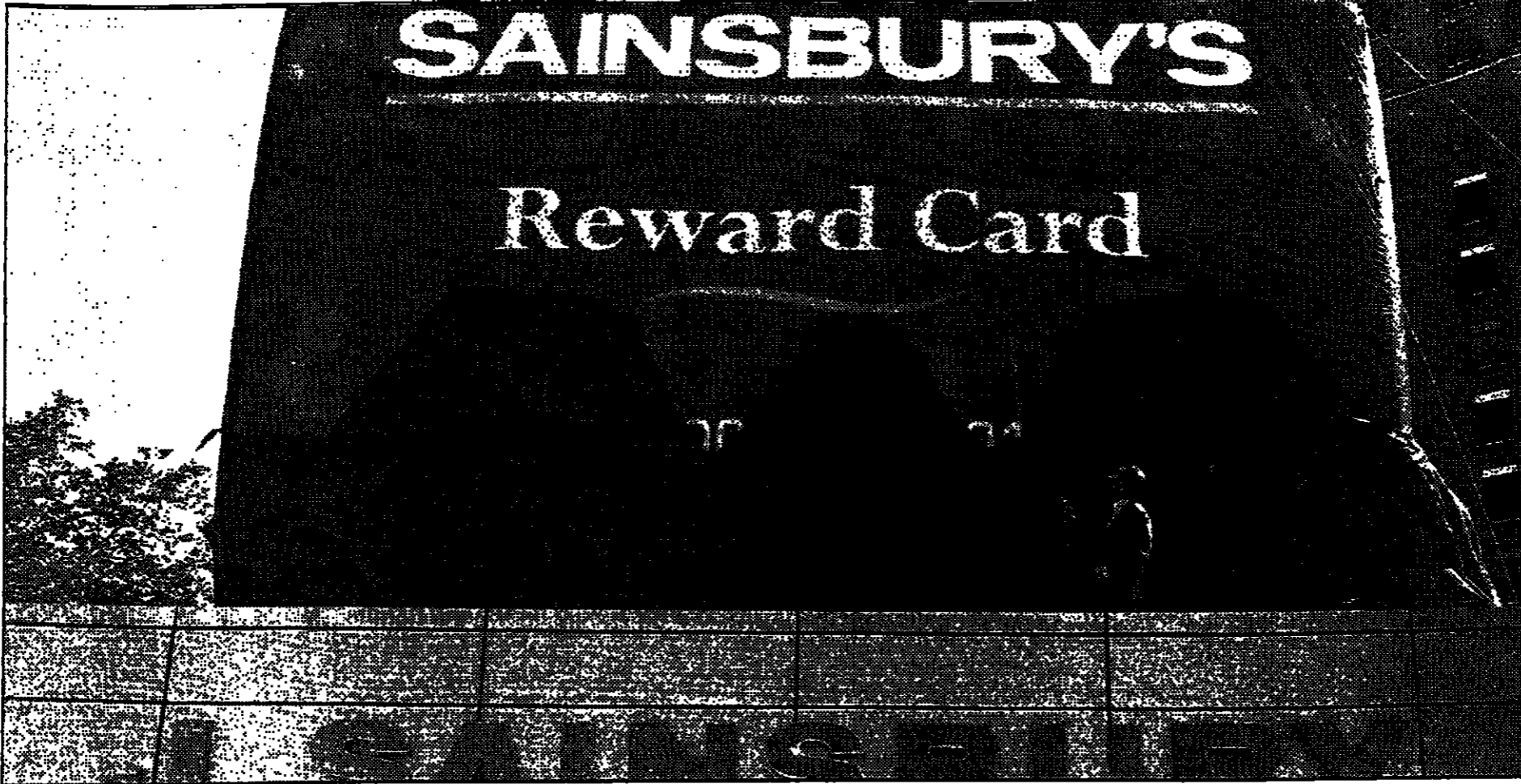
TOURIST RATES - BANK SELLS

Australia 1.8825	France 7.66	Italy 2.333	Singapore 2.12
Austria 13.97	Germany 2.27	Malta 0.245	South Africa 8.53
Belgium 43.54	Greece 363.00	Netherlands 2.450	Spain 191.50
Canada 2.05	Hong Kong 11.51	New Zealand 2.2150	Sweden 10.12
Cyprus 0.6975	India 53.63	Norway 9.76	Switzerland 1.26
Denmark 8.80	Ireland 0.9425	Portugal 235.00	Turkey 117.469
Finland 7.1250	Israel 5.01	Saudi Arabia 5.74	USA 1.5050

Supplied by NatWest Bank (excluding Ir:don r:ope and sc:ah ch:ck).

Late entry banks on Air Miles to take back lead

Joining the pack... David Sainsbury unveils his change of heart, on the roof of a store in Cromwell Road, west London



Supermarket plays trump card

SAINSBURY joined the supermarket loyalty war yesterday with the launch of its Reward card, and added an Air Miles option to its offer to customers of discount vouchers worth 1p for every pound they spend.

But Tesco, which began the loyalty campaign by introducing its Clubcard in spring last year, spiked its rival's guns by choosing yesterday for the release of its upgraded card

which also accesses a NatWest bank account. Tesco announced at the same time that it was reducing the minimum spend for earning points to match the £5 level of the Sainsbury scheme.

The wind was further taken out of Sainsbury's sails by profit downgrades from stockbrokers, who doubt that the card will achieve the 3 per cent sales uplift needed to cover costs.

Sainsbury chairman David Sainsbury originally described the Clubcard scheme as an electronic version of Green Shield stamps and said his company would not follow suit. But deputy chairman Tom Vyner said yesterday the Reward card was a key initiative which offered "rewards which are tangible, easy to understand and access, and which are different".

He also trumpeted the potential marketing benefits from the database which the company will build up in conjunction with Air Miles' parent, British Airways. "This is more than a Reward card. It is really a relationship card. It will make impor-

tant advances in understanding customers' needs and meeting them. Independent observers were less enthusiastic. Tony McNeary, an analyst at NatWest Securities, said: "There is some evidence that management has tried to be a little more creative than in the past. But Tesco has done a lot of damage to this business and I really think it's going to take another year to see signs of recovery."

Other analysts expressed reservations about the Air Miles connection, which Sainsbury claimed as the unique feature of the Reward scheme, and one which cannot be copied because of an exclusive agreement with BA. Sainsbury said the average shopper could earn a free return trip to Paris after a year's use of the Reward card. "I am not sure it is addressing the problem," one analyst said. "They have got to try to attract young families." Another said: "Air Miles is not a bad idea, but I can't see it really setting the world alight."

Graham Gould, of the Cobra consultancy, said the Reward scheme seemed little different from Tesco's original Clubcard. "Tesco has moved on and, as Tesco already has the initiative, Sainsbury is always going to be one step behind," he said.

But Kevin McCarty, Sainsbury marketing director, said Reward was the first of a series of developments which would regain ground lost to Tesco and other rivals. The card's scope will be expanded to give shoppers more ways to earn and spend points, and to add value so that shoppers get more for their discount. Mr McCarty also promised developments from the relationship between Sainsbury and BA, and said a payment option would eventually be added.

Green taxes urged to boost jobs

RICHARD THOMAS, Economics Correspondent

IMPOSING stiff taxes on business energy use and cutting the cost of hiring staff would slash pollution levels and create 700,000 jobs within a decade, a leading centre-left think-tank said yesterday.

Calling on all political parties to toughen their environmental policies, the Institute for Public Policy Research said the combination of a tax on business energy use — peaking at \$9 (\$6) a barrel — higher road fuel duties, a better levy on waste disposal and a "quarry tax" would

raise £22 billion a year by 2005. The package would push down carbon dioxide emissions by 10 per cent and waste by 16 per cent, the IPPR said.

Authors Garry Holtham and Stephen Tindale estimate that using the revenue virtually to eliminate employer National Insurance payments would also sharply increase the demand for staff, leading to the creation of more than 700,000 new jobs.

Tax experts, however, are sceptical about the ambitious job claims. Stephen Smith, deputy director of the Institute for Fiscal Studies, said the IPPR's environmental and revenue projections were accurate, but he disputed the labour market projections.

"Any employment effect is likely to be modest," he said. "Put it like this — much closer to zero than to 700,000."

Mr Smith said firms calculated how much an employee was worth to them in gross terms. If firms' NI payments were cut, wages would simply rise to make up the difference, he said.

"These measures should stand or fall by their environmental effect," he said. "If we make claims for them which fail to materialise, public support could diminish."

But Mr Holtham said Mr Smith and other critics had made the mistake of assuming that the supply of labour was fixed. He said there were many people — discouraged middle-aged men, partners of the jobless — who could be enticed back into the labour force by NI cuts.

The IPPR paper projects that, of the 700,000 new jobs, 300,000 would go to people coming off the dole queue.

Tesco and IKEA join Greenpeace attack on the dangers of PVC

RICHARD THOMAS, Economics Correspondent

A GROUP of leading retailers, including Tesco and IKEA, will today join the attack on the plastic PVC as part of a long-running campaign by the environmental group Greenpeace.

Tesco is expected to join IKEA, Lloyd's Chemists and Body Shop in announcing that PVC should be treated with caution and will investigate the elimination of the plastic from all retail uses which carry a risk to consumers, such as in packaging and building applications.

This latest threat to PVC, one of the biggest end products of the chlorine industry, comes after the recent scare concerning phthalates in baby milk. These are chemicals which make PVC pliable for use in conveyor belts and other flexible plastic products. They have been implicated in a number of medical disorders, at levels well above those found in government tests on baby milk.

Flexible PVC is no longer used as food packaging, removing the direct threat from phthalates, but Greenpeace says there are many other dangers from rigid PVC, which is widely used in the grocery business.

Sarah Burton of Greenpeace said last night: "We are particularly concerned about dioxins, which are released when PVC is incinerated, and which are also gender benders."

Healthy profits in care for the aged

Outlook

IT IS a tiny industry in terms of stock market value, and the companies in it are not (yet) household names, but the quoted nursing home sector is one of the liveliest around — and not just because of the exponential growth in demand for long-term care.

Yesterday saw the sector's second bid in just under three months, with its biggest player, Westminster Health Care, offering £74.5 million for its Yorkshire-based rival, Goldborough Healthcare.

The offer, immediately rejected, comes hard on the heels of Court Cavendish's agreed £21.5 million offer for Greenacre Group, making Court the third-biggest player in the sector, with almost 3,000 beds.

At the same time, pointing up the contrasting fortunes in the sector, Takare, another of the bigger private nursing home operators, yesterday put out a profits warning citing "disappointing" occupancy levels.

Elsewhere, other private nursing home groups are busily snapping up the sector's minnows — including unquoted groups — while they can, providing further evidence that the industry is consolidating rapidly.

The fast-growing Tamaris group has just bought a 50 per cent stake in Lodge Care, while Harmony Healthcare has completed its largest acquisition to date, with the \$9 million purchase of Serenite Health Care.

Quoted Private Nursing Operators

Group	Beds	Market Value £
Westminster Health Care	6,500	201.1 million
Takare	6,810	177.2 million
Goldborough Healthcare	1,453	76.3 million
CrestaCare	1,100	57.1 million
Court Cavendish	2,272	49.8 million
Care UK	1,241	46.5 million
Quality Care Homes	1,587	46.3 million
Greenacre	724	20.2 million
Tamaris	1,212	15.2 million

*Approximate figures at some cases in the process of being taken over by Court Cavendish

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News in brief

VW recalls 105,000 British-owned cars

VOLKSWAGEN, Europe's biggest car maker, yesterday recalled about 105,000 cars in Britain after discovering a cooling-system fault that could wreck their engines or injure drivers and passengers. The move is part of a worldwide recall of 950,000 VW Golfs, Jettas, Passats and Corrados built in the 1980s. It follows a similar recall in February last year, involving 1.9 million Mark 2 Golfs and Jettas with the same problem.

The cars involved were fitted with a heater matrix made from a plastic which has been shown to degrade when exposed to excessive temperatures. If the cars' cooling system overheats, the matrices will fail within about five years and can damage the engine or send hot water and steam into the passenger compartment.

The recall affects 1.3-litre Golf and Jetta models built between 1983 and 1989 (A- to G-registration prefixes) and four-cylinder Passats and Corrados built between 1988 and 1989 (F and G registrations). Owners should take their cars to their Volkswagen dealer, where the matrix will be checked and, if necessary, replaced free of charge. — Bloomberg

Williams pulls electronic plug

WILLIAMS Holdings yesterday said it had agreed to sell control of its Swiss-based electronics division, Saia Burgess Electronics, to its management for £71 million. The sale follows a string of acquisitions by Williams in recent months as it pursues a strategy of refocusing on fire protection, security, and building materials for the future, said Roger Carr, Williams' chief executive.

"When we look forward, fire and security are particularly important to us." The two divisions account for more than half of Williams' sales. Mr Carr expected the electronics business, in which Williams will retain a 20 per cent stake, "ultimately" to sell shares to become a publicly traded company. — Bloomberg

Bank of Scotland cuts rate

BANK of Scotland said its variable mortgage rate would be reduced from 7.24 per cent to 6.99 per cent from next Friday for new mortgage customers and from August 15 for existing borrowers. Stewart Henderson, head of branch operations, said: "With mortgage interest rates at their lowest for 30 years, the time has never been better to move house or take the first step on to the property ladder." — Erief

1500

The Guardian

ROYAL ASCOT

Ashkal

Royal Ascot car

Results

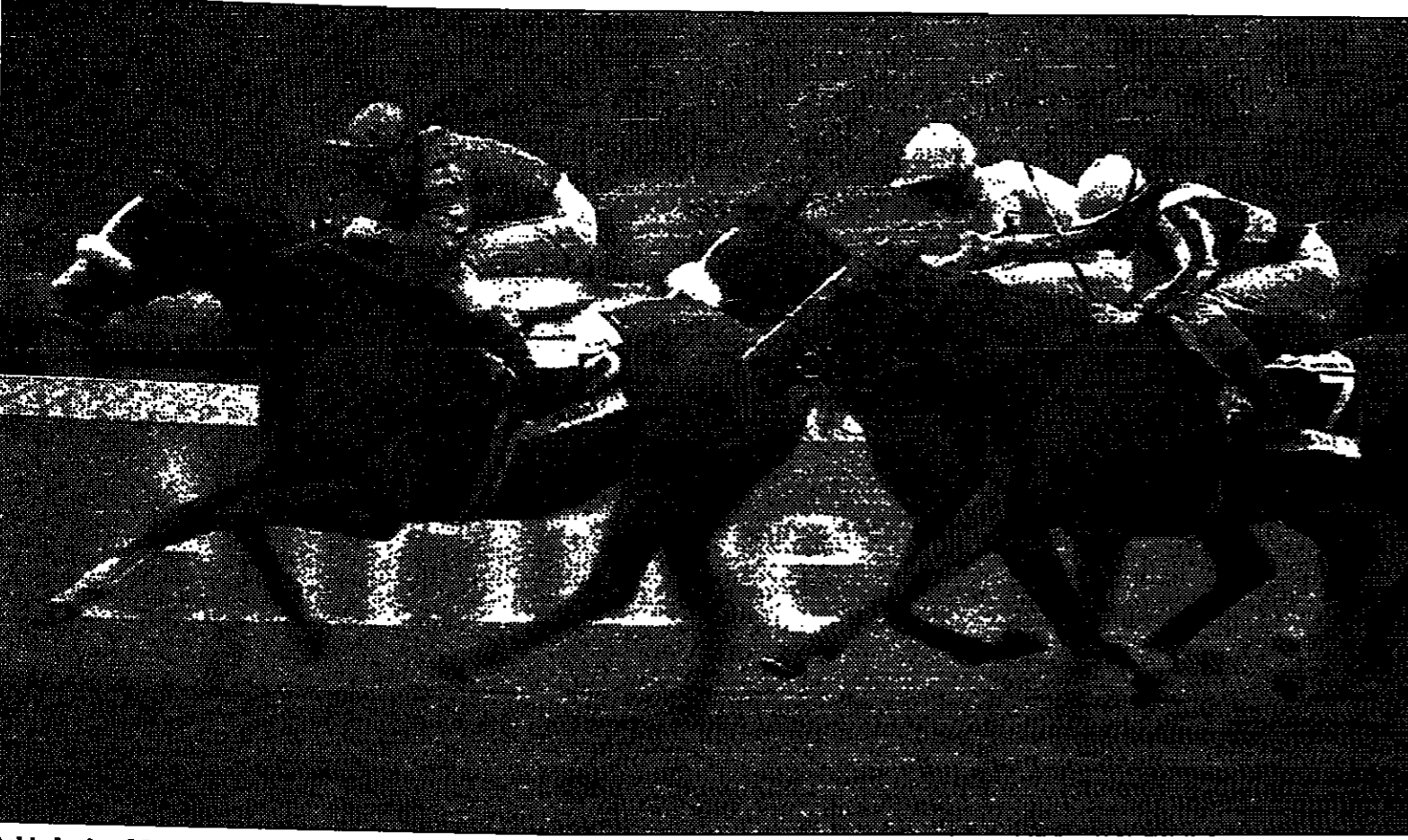
RACELINE

ROYAL ASCOT

101

102

ROYAL ASCOT



Ashkalani and Spinning World (striped sleeves), first and second in the French 2,000 Guineas, meet again at Ascot today

Ashkalani can make his mark

HERE the 2,000 Guineas at Newmarket lacked strength in depth, with no runners from France or Ireland, today's St James's Palace Stakes more than compensates. This time Mark Of Esteem is opposed by the French and Irish Guineas winners in a race which sets the standard for four days of quality racing at Royal Ascot.

have to step up on that form to end the unbeaten run of Ashkalani, winner of the French Guineas, and he faces another tough challenge from across the Channel in Spinning World, who beat Bijuou d'Inde far more comprehensively when winning the Irish Guineas at Longchamp.

But things did not go entirely to plan for the winner either. He had beaten Spinning World four lengths on the faster ground at Longchamp the previous month, and with conditions in his favour he can confirm his superiority.

Mick Kinane, deputising for the suspended Gerald Mosses, can employ the finishing speed of Ashkalani (3.45) to register his third St James's Palace success in the last five years.

Favourite backers will be looking to Kinane to get them off to a flying start on Charnwood Forest in the Queen Anne Stakes. The Godolphin colt, 5lb better with Soviet Line for a narrow beating at Newbury, has solid claims but with some firms betting a shade of odds-on there is better value elsewhere.

Golf

Jones the crock finds crock of gold

FIVE years ago Steve Jones was larking about on a mountain bike in the Arizona desert when he unexpectedly came across a deep ditch. He fell off, dislocating his shoulder and he thought at the time, grazing his fingers.



Jones... perfect comeback

The shoulder injury was soon put right but one finger, his ring finger, was to prove a more severe problem. Ligaments were torn, he could no longer grip a golf club properly and for 3 1/2 years he thought his career might be over.

On Sunday, in the most glorious fashion imaginable, he found out that it was not. He won the US Open championship at the Oakland Hills course in Detroit with a final round of 69 for a total of 278, two under par. He was one of only three players under par at the end of a four-day tussle with the course they call The Monster.

David Davies on the career-threatened player who became US Open champion

simple task, to two-putt from 10 feet. This, though, was for the US Open, and the player contemplating it had not played golf for 3 1/2 of the past five years and had not come close to a win in the time he had been back playing. He barely touched his first putt, which rolled 12 inches past the hole.

"These greens," he added, "were not designed to be played at the speed they are this week." The course, designed by Donald Ross in 1921, had different grass on the greens on those days, and the mowers that cut the grass down to its present height had not been invented.

Over the four days of the championship the 18th was rated the hardest hole on the course. Its scoring average was 4.5 and it saw only 26 birdies but 221 bogeys, 30 double bogeys and eight triples or more. To par it when absolutely necessary made Jones a worthy champion.

Love partnered Colin Montgomerie and was out in a one-under-par 34 which could, perhaps even should, have been 39 or 40. He hit only one fairway during that stretch but was lucky with his lies, and his wonderful short game saved him. Those who live by the putter eventually die by it, however, and that was Love's story on the 18th.

Montgomerie played quite beautifully over that same stretch, entirely without luck, and despondency seemed to envelope him over the back nine.

Nicklaus, who said that last year's Open championship at St Andrews would be his last, apart from the year 2000, felt that he was competitive this week and was now likely to be at Royal Lytham.

Royal Ascot card with guide to the form

Table listing race times and names for the first section of the Royal Ascot card, including races like the 2.30 Restracourse and 3.05 First Island (rb).

Table listing race times and names for the second section of the Royal Ascot card, including races like the 2.30 Queen Anne Stakes and 3.05 Prince of Wales's Stakes.

Table listing race times and names for the third section of the Royal Ascot card, including races like the 4.55 Britania Stakes Handicap and 5.30 Ascot Stakes Handicap.

Table listing race times and names for the fourth section of the Royal Ascot card, including races like the 3.05 Prince of Wales's Stakes and 4.55 Britania Stakes Handicap.

Table listing race times and names for the fifth section of the Royal Ascot card, including races like the 4.55 Britania Stakes Handicap and 5.30 Ascot Stakes Handicap.

Table listing race times and names for the sixth section of the Royal Ascot card, including races like the 5.30 Ascot Stakes Handicap and 6.00 Ladies' Day Handicap.

Table listing race times and names for the seventh section of the Royal Ascot card, including races like the 6.00 Ladies' Day Handicap and 6.30 Royal Hunt Cup.

Table listing race times and names for the eighth section of the Royal Ascot card, including races like the 6.30 Royal Hunt Cup and 7.00 Royal Hunt Cup.

Table listing race times and names for the ninth section of the Royal Ascot card, including races like the 7.00 Royal Hunt Cup and 7.30 Royal Hunt Cup.

Table listing race times and names for the tenth section of the Royal Ascot card, including races like the 7.30 Royal Hunt Cup and 8.00 Royal Hunt Cup.

Table listing race times and names for the eleventh section of the Royal Ascot card, including races like the 8.00 Royal Hunt Cup and 8.30 Royal Hunt Cup.

Table listing race times and names for the twelfth section of the Royal Ascot card, including races like the 8.30 Royal Hunt Cup and 9.00 Royal Hunt Cup.

Table listing race times and names for the thirteenth section of the Royal Ascot card, including races like the 9.00 Royal Hunt Cup and 9.30 Royal Hunt Cup.

Table listing race times and names for the fourteenth section of the Royal Ascot card, including races like the 9.30 Royal Hunt Cup and 10.00 Royal Hunt Cup.

Thirk runners and riders

Table listing race times and names for the Thirk runners and riders section, including races like the 2.15 Doonlands Carriage and 3.25 Chesters Lady.

Table listing race times and names for the Thirk runners and riders section, including races like the 2.15 North Essex Selling Stakes and 3.25 Chesters Lady.

Table listing race times and names for the Thirk runners and riders section, including races like the 4.55 Britania Stakes Handicap and 5.30 Ascot Stakes Handicap.

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Ladies' Day is early this year

Table listing race times and names for the Ladies' Day section, including races like the 2.15 Doonlands Carriage and 3.25 Chesters Lady.

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Advertisement for RACELINE, featuring a phone number 0930 1684 and a logo for ROYAL ASCOT THIRSK 1021 202.

Advertisement for RESULTS, listing various horse racing results and odds.

Advertisement for MUSSELBURGH, listing race results and odds.

Advertisement for GREAT CHANCE FOR EASEY, listing race results and odds.

Advertisement for WLF STOREY, listing race results and odds.

Advertisement for Ladies' Day, listing race results and odds.

Advertisement for ST JAMES'S PALACE STAKES, listing race results and odds.

Advertisement for TODAY'S EURO '96 ACTION, listing race results and odds.

Large advertisement for Ladbrokes, featuring the phone number 0800 524 524 and the slogan 'For a bet, Ladbrokes are favourite.'

EURO 96

Dutch feel the force of disharmony and division

Martin Thorpe reports on problems besetting England's opponents in the final group game at Wembley tonight

SOME dressing rooms are disrupted by disputes over tactics or money, others by the influence of one or two outside personalities. At Euro 96 the Dutch camp finds itself riven by a tension that is just as easy to understand, yet far more difficult to solve. It is a friction caused by the fact that several members of the squad have a different colour skin from the others. It is hard to call it racist, impossible to judge who is right or wrong. The problem stems more from a clash of cultures and has been compounded by misunderstandings and tilted by perceptions. It came to a head last week when the midfielder Edgar Davids was sent home from the tournament after the player said of Guus Hiddink: "The coach should not put his head in the ass of some players." The "some players" concerned are Danny Blind, the captain, and Ronald de Boer, the influential midfielder. Both are white and accustomed to conferring with Hiddink about team line-ups and tactics. Davids is — or was — a central figure among those blacks in the squad who are upset at not being asked their opinion. It is not necessarily that they hold a different opinion, that they think Hid-



Welcome to Wembley... Dennis Bergkamp takes centre stage yesterday. Tonight he will be up against his Arsenal team-mate Tony Adams

right to consult Blind, who is after all the captain, and De Boer, a respected thinker on the game. They also point to the inexperience of such youngsters as Kluyvert, 19, Davids, 23, and Seedorf, 21. But then again De Boer is only 23. There is also discernible irritation at the influence exerted on Seedorf by his father Clarence, who acts as his personal manager and threatened that his son would pull out of the tournament if he

was left out of the final Group A matters. There came to a head last week. Hiddink had tried to ignore the growing problem but then Blind publicly criticised the performances of Seedorf and Davids after the Dutch drew with Scotland. Although many felt that Blind's observations were valid, Seedorf was furious and accused the captain of breaking the squad agreement that no player should criticise another. "This," said Seedorf, "is another example of the lack of respect to us" — meaning the blacks. Then came the Davids episode when, after the win over the Swiss, he allowed himself to be led by his emotions. Although Davids apologised for accusing Hiddink of mis-positioning his head, he would not retract the basis of his accusation and, after vowing that he had played his last match for Holland, the "Pit Bull" was finally muzzled by being sent home.

Seedorf and Kluyvert were angry and frustrated and now allege that other blacks in the squad, such as Bogarde, Reiziger and Taument, are on their side. "There's more players involved than you think," said Seedorf. The split in the camp was highlighted on Saturday when a photographer managed to sneak a shot of a squad barbecue showing the blacks sitting alone at one table. The Dutch coach was furious, although yesterday the camp was sending up its first peace signals. "The atmosphere here is good now," said Hiddink. Seedorf, meanwhile, was more non-committal. "I've talked about things with Hiddink, about what I want to happen, but we haven't finished yet," he said. "There are some things we still have to resolve." How all this might affect the performance on the pitch England will discover tonight.

Suppose, for instance, that Holland beat England two-nil and Switzerland beat Scotland by the same score. We then go to the coefficients...

Pocket calculators ready?

Russell Thomas STAND by for yellow-card fever to be followed by severe headaches as the main ailment of Euro 96 over the next two nights. Rapid mental gymnastics are required to work out the tortuous new Uefa system to find all the quarter-finalists. With only Croatia definitely through, and Turkey and Romania out, 13 countries are still vying for the remaining seven places in the last eight. Even Russia, with no points so far, incredibly have a chance of lengthening their stay in England. Instead of simply separating teams level on points by calculating goal difference, Uefa has devised a formidable

formula, theoretically employing eight criteria, right down to coefficients, fair-play records and the last resort — or straw — of drawing lots. In reality the coefficient factor will avoid resort to the last two. The prime difference now is that, when two teams are equal on points, the first determinant is the head-to-head outcome — that is, the result of the direct match between them. But crudely, it means that, if England lose 5-0 to Holland tonight, while Scotland beat the Swiss by the same score, Terry Venables' team would still qualify. Though the two British rivals would both have four points, and the Scots' superior goal difference, last Saturday's result at

Table for Group A showing teams (Belgium, Netherlands, Switzerland, Scotland) and their P, W, D, L, F, A, Pts, Goal.

Table for Group B showing teams (France, Bulgaria, Romania, Spain) and their P, W, D, L, F, A, Pts, Goal.

Table for Group C showing teams (Germany, Czech Republic, Denmark, Turkey) and their P, W, D, L, F, A, Pts, Goal.

Table for Group D showing teams (Croatia, Portugal, Netherlands, Turkey) and their P, W, D, L, F, A, Pts, Goal.

A DRAW will put England and Holland through, with the hosts on top and earning a Wembley quarter-final with the runners-up from Group B. Scotland can go through only if England beat Holland. Still, the Scots will probably need to score three against the Swiss because of Holland's better coefficient. Even if England lose 1-0, the Swiss would need to score three against the Scots to put Terry Venables' side out. A 2-0 win for the Swiss would be enough (on coefficients) if England lost by two goals.

VICTORY for either France or Bulgaria tonight would definitely put them through as group winners, and a draw would be enough for France to qualify irrespective of what happens in Spain's game with Romania, on the basis of their better coefficient. Spain, if they win, can head the group on a number of permutations, including a 1-0 victory coupled with a 0-0 draw in the other game. The nightmare scenario is a 1-0 Spain win twinned with 1-1. That would mean coefficients — and Bulgaria out.

INCREDIBLY, any of the four could still get through here, although it would probably take a four-goal defeat of the Germans by Italy, with a win for the Czech Republic against Russia, to deny Bert Vogts' team a quarter-final place. A win for Italy will put them through, but if both matches are drawn they will go out because of their defeat by the Czechs. A German win would leave a slight opening for the Russians, but they would have to win at Anfield, by a minimum of two goals, to sneak second place.

RELATIVELY simple. Croatia are through and will top this group with a draw or win against Portugal tomorrow at Nottingham. The Portuguese need a draw to be sure of qualifying and will finish on top if they beat the Croats. Denmark, facing homework-bound Turkey, have no choice. They must win their match at Hillsborough and hope the attack-minded Portuguese lose — but the Danes have a four-goal margin to make up, which gives the defending champions only the slimmest of survival chances.

Advertisement for JVC and VHS featuring a woman's face and text: 'Fancy tickets for the Euro '96 final? Speak to this tout.' 'Score tickets for the Euro '96 final. Catch Julia Carling on 'VH-1' for you! Every night this week, 7-8pm.'

Results section containing various sports results including Soccer, Rugby League, Golf, and Tennis.

Group A and B results and fixtures for the Euro 96 tournament.

Group C and D results and fixtures for the Euro 96 tournament.

Rugby League Wigan to hold crisis talks as home attendances slide. Paul Fitzpatrick. WIGAN'S crowd of 7,226 for the home match with Oldham on Sunday, their set for seven years, has set off the alarm bells at a club who need to average 12,000 spectators a game to break even. The crowd of 17,873 for the Paris St Helens match in March remains the biggest Super League attendance so far. It should be overtaken on Friday when Wigan play at Helens at Central Park in the championship's most significant fixture to date, but however big the crowd, it cannot disguise a worrying trend for the game's most successful club. It is still too early to say how successful or otherwise summer rugby has been. There are plenty of encouraging signs. Bradford, London, and Sheffield have seen significant crowd increases since the start of the season. But Wigan, the club with the game's biggest wage bill, will now hold urgent inquiries into their falling attendances, which were down 2,000 on average during the Centenary season and which only twice have gone above 10,000 in Super League. Jack Robinson, Wigan's chairman, admits to being worried. "We still have some big crowds to come, starting with Friday's match with St Helens. But the Oldham attendance was very disappointing and was probably a combination of several things. "But I don't think Sunday evening is proving to be a very good time for kick-offs.

AS IF Italy's manager Arrigo Sacchi did not have enough problems, he may soon be sleeping with the fishes after incurring the wrath of Salvatore Riina, the self-styled Mafia "Boss of Bosses". Riina is standing trial in connection with bombings which killed 10 people. But he took time out from his trial to pass judgement on the Italian team who lost 2-1 to the Czech Republic. "He [Sacchi] used suicide tactics and made suicide choices," said Riina, choosing his words carefully. If you were Dutch and had a brass band, what would you call it? The Amsterdam Ensemble, perhaps? Or Tulips with Tubas? Wrong. The band that follows Holland is called Half a Pint of Lager. Surely a case of right name, wrong team. They should be striking up for England. Ridiculous haircuts No. 3: Fernando Couto (Portugal).

Advertisement for a radio service: 'The right result in 35 minutes. £29.50. 0800 000 111. Includes National Breakdown.'

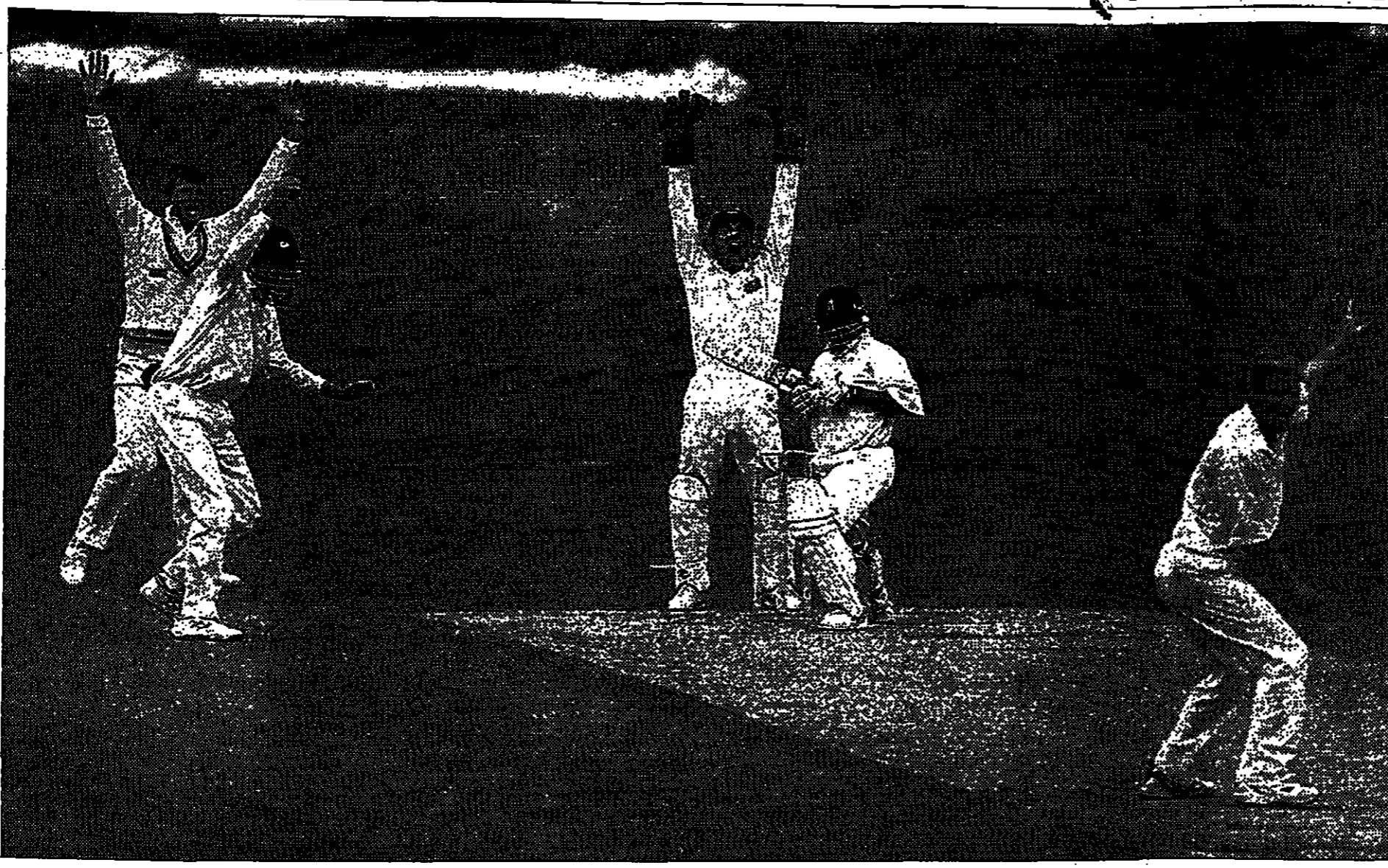
Large vertical advertisement on the right edge of the page, partially cut off, featuring 'White rose in the pink' and 'Lewis lets rip'.

White rose in the pink

David Hopps at Headingley

MANY of those who have observed this past week that Yorkshire are top of the championship...

Warwickshire, 126 for four overnight, still 76 short of making Yorkshire...



Piper's lament... Warwickshire's wicketkeeper is trapped lbw by Richard Stemp, the final ball of the champions' second innings

PHOTOGRAPH: MICHAEL STEELE

Two wickets fell to Darren Gough, back to his most vibrant. The deliveries that bowled Walsh and Giles further suggested that his vital inswinging yorker has returned with its old venom.

Saturday, as he found sterling late-order support, which changed the course of the match. He might be dismayed by his dropping by England but he is contentedly throwing the bat away in a championship match against Hampshire.

Yorkshire are not the toughest opponents that Dominic Reeve has faced this season. The TCCB's ruling that the Warwickshire captain's tactic of deliberately throwing the bat away in a championship match against Hampshire.

to avoid being caught off the glove, would be disallowed in future came after behind-the-scenes lobbying by the MCC.

Only four days after Reeve's play, John Jameson, the MCC's assistant cricket secretary, advised umpires and players that such methods were against the spirit of the game.

dismissing him on the grounds of obstructing the field or because the action of the ball hitting the glove was "wilful" handling the ball. One way or another, the next batsman to try it is on a loser.

Surrey v Leicestershire

Lewis lets rip

David Foot at The Oval

IT WAS a triumph of persistence by Surrey, and especially Chris Lewis, as they beat Leicestershire by 106 runs with fewer than 100 overs left. Lewis, his face etched with horror at a rare dropped catch in the slips, came back to redeem himself and demolish the lingering resistance to finish with five for 25, his best for Surrey.

Altogether it proved a wretched visit for Leicestershire to south London. The previous day, in a pretence of a Sunday league match that was over in less than two hours, they had been bowled out for a thoroughly sheepish 48: not just in time for evening but almost allowing them to catch the end of matins.

Yesterday they briefly seemed capable of winning and then certainly of drawing, having been set a target of 284 in 56 overs. Wells and Smith had both gone by the seventh over but Maddy stayed contemplatively for two hours and Whitlock started to score through the off-side square of the wicket.

There was, however, too much nibbling. The pair went to catches behind the stumps; Brown held crucial catches at second slip and silly point; Surrey's fast bowlers toiled impressively, and Darren Bicknell also weighed in with a timely success.

Eventually it was left to Lewis by now he was at his straightest and fastest. Parsons knew little as he played on. Poor Pierson went first ball and Mulhally, who had revealed batting talent on Saturday, now had his stumps insensitively rearranged. It was no way to treat worthy tailenders.

Time to declare truce in a war of words

Mike Selvey says that, for the good of the sport's image, Raymond Illingworth should be treated leniently today

COMMON sense in the English cricket establishment can be as rare as beach resorts on Bear Island. But if the game is not to suffer the embarrassment either of removing the chairman of selectors from his office or perhaps seeing him resign, it will be needed in good measure today at Raymond Illingworth's disciplinary hearing.

Illingworth appears today before the Test and County Cricket Board Discipline Committee, chaired by Gerard Elias QC and comprising sundry members of county committees. It will consider whether his book, One-Man Committee, written in association with the journalist and broadcaster Jack Bannister, breaches board regulations on public statements liable to bring the game into disrepute.

At issue today is not only the timing of the publication of the book, which it is felt would better have been left until the chairman stands down from office at the end of the season, but also some of its passages, particularly those relating to the infamous, not to say tedious, series of spats with Devon Malcolm and the revealing of selection-committee confidences.

If found guilty of the charges, Illingworth can be reprimanded, fined, suspended or sacked. He has already said that he will mount a strenuous defence, and he will be represented at today's hearing by Alan Herd, who, as Ian Botham's solicitor, has much experience of talking on the Board. Ironically, Herd was instrumental only two weeks ago in eliciting from Illingworth a grudging public apology to Botham for derogatory remarks made about him.

It is likely that Illingworth's defence will take several forms: first, that the timing of the book's publication and that of extracts in a newspaper was in the domain of the publisher; second, that his comments were fair and constructive; and third, that in making specific comments about Malcolm he was merely exercising a right of reply to unauthorised allegations by Malcolm, for which the bowler is believed to have received £10,000 from the newspaper that carried them and more than a wigging from the Board.

It is the Board's handling of the Malcolm affair which has rankled most with Illingworth. Malcolm's criticisms of his dealings with the chairman contained an assertion — later withdrawn, but made none the less — that Illingworth had been racially motivated in his criticism of the bowler's behaviour.

Kent v Middlesex

Carr refuses to gamble

Mike Selvey at Canterbury

KENT and Middlesex, both sides bubbling near the top of the championship table and requiring a win to maintain momentum, instead played out a draw yesterday.

But the home side at least could not be wholly dissatisfied. They were required to make 299 to win in what proved to be 68 overs, against an erstwhile England spinner and another who had taken eight wickets in an innings only a week ago. And the pitch was wearing so fourth-day nicely that Nigel Long, an occasional first-class bowler, was able to register career-best figures in the morning.

Kent made a bold start, then lost four wickets in six midstream overs before Mark Ealham and Martin McCague, and therefore had no option but to play ball. But only last week Jack Russell was suggesting that it reduces the game to one of patience, where eventually stalemate will occur and bats will not even be required. And if it drives spectators away, the end will in no way justify the means.

Essex v Northamptonshire

Moral victory for Roberts but Essex hold on

Paul Weaver at Chelmsford

ANDY ROBERTS, the Northamptonshire leg-spinner, should never be confused with the feared West Indies fast bowler of the same name. "Roggie" looks much like the team mascot employed to be the team mascot for the last eight seasons has played only 58 matches.

For a while here yesterday, when he took the wickets of Nasser Hussain, Ronnie Irani and Robert Rollins in quick succession, he looked capable of winning the match. In Essex, chasing a theoretical 389 for victory, ended on 204 for eight and Northants, who have won all 12 of their one-day games this season, are still looking for their first championship victory.

On Friday, when Essex were 202 for one wicket in response to 214, they appeared the likely winners, but they were bowled out for 308. Northants were 325 runs ahead when they resumed their second innings yesterday morning at 419 for seven.

Scoreboard

British Assurance County Championship

Table with 2 columns: Team and Score. Includes Worcester v Northamptonshire (100s) draw with Nottinghamshire 110, Warwickshire v Gloucestershire (100s) draw with Warwickshire 110, Essex v Northamptonshire (100s) draw with Essex 110, Kent v Middlesex (100s) draw with Kent 110.

Table with 2 columns: Team and Score. Includes Yorkshire v Warwickshire (100s) draw with Yorkshire 110, Leicestershire v Surrey (100s) draw with Leicestershire 110, Lancashire v Derbyshire (100s) draw with Lancashire 110, Gloucestershire v Warwickshire (100s) draw with Gloucestershire 110.

Table with 2 columns: Team and Score. Includes Essex v Northamptonshire (100s) draw with Essex 110, Kent v Middlesex (100s) draw with Kent 110, Surrey v Leicestershire (100s) draw with Surrey 110, Lancashire v Derbyshire (100s) draw with Lancashire 110.

Kent v Middlesex

County Table

Table with 4 columns: Team, Runs, Wickets, Overs. Includes Kent, Middlesex, Surrey, Leicestershire, Lancashire, Derbyshire, Gloucestershire, Warwickshire, Yorkshire, Essex, Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire, Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Essex, Kent, Middlesex, Surrey, Leicestershire, Lancashire, Derbyshire, Gloucestershire, Warwickshire, Yorkshire, Essex, Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire, Worcestershire, Warwickshire.

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Great Britain Olympic team

John Duncan adds: The Sports Council conducted more than 70 tests on every qualifying British Olympic track-and-field athlete at the A.A.A. Championships as part of its attempt to pass every Atlanta-bound Briton a clean bill before the Games begin on July 19.

The samples taken will also be scrutinised on a high-resolution mass-spectrometry machine similar to one that will be used in Atlanta, which can help expose previously hidden signs of drug abuse. The news came as the Sports Council unveiled the results of its doping-control programme for the past year, with 84 positives overall — up from 67 in 1994-95. The number of tests increased marginally to 4,327 from 4,374.

Table with 4 columns: Name, Runs, Wickets, Overs. Includes John Duncan, Steve Backley, Jonathan Edwards, etc.

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Advertisement for a cricket tournament. Text: '96 Q14: Which team has been knocked out by the eventual winners in every post-war tournament for which they have qualified? ticket A14: Holland. Guardian'

SportsGuardian

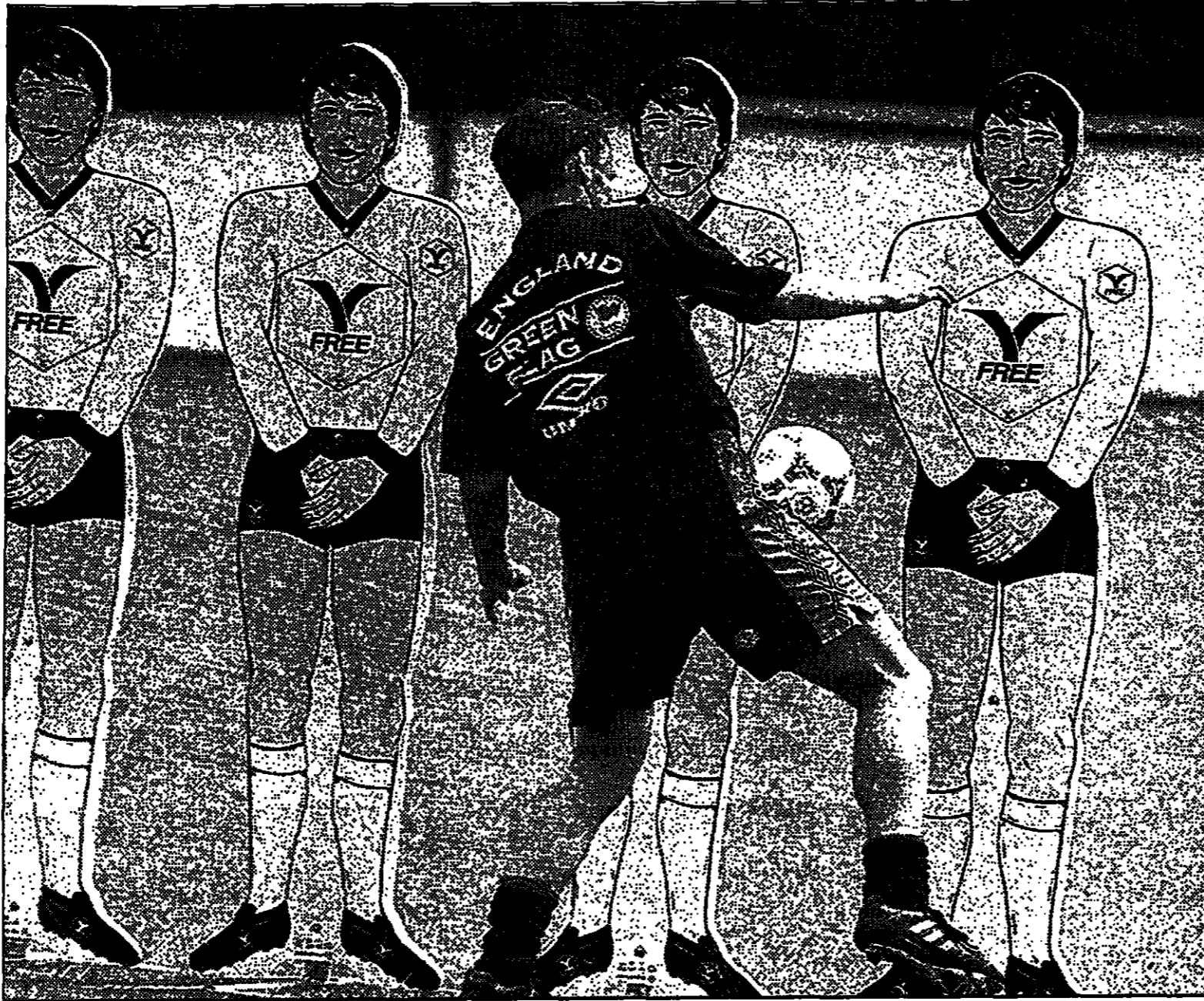
EURO 96: ENGLAND MEET HOLLAND TO ENSURE A QUARTER-FINAL PLACE



Adams... knows he has to stop his Arsenal team-mate

England must remember that on this occasion a draw is a better bet than a lottery

Report by David Lacey



Stiff opposition... England's striker Teddy Sheringham mesmerises the defence during training at Bisham yesterday

PHOTOGRAPH: NIALl O'MARA

Adams-Bergkamp the key duel

ENGLAND should reach the quarter-finals of the European Championship tonight provided they remember that on this occasion a draw is a better bet than a lottery.

should Scotland be defeated by the required margin at Villa Park. In fact, were England to beat Holland 1-0 while the Scots won 3-0 then both British teams would be in the last eight. The plausibility of this theory falls down on the fact that at present Scotland's attack would be hard pressed to score three times against Jimmy Shand's band.

passing skills than those England faced on Saturday. He is unlikely to change the team — and McManaman's roving role is now crucial — but he may rearrange some of the parts.

but at least Bergkamp was on the same Arsenal side. "He's a tremendous gentleman and it's going to be very hard for me to kick him," Adams said laughingly yesterday, prompting the more serious thought

be careful you don't get another." Venables warned yesterday. But Adams said: "The yellow card won't come into it: I'll play my game. If I start worrying about cards I'm not doing my team justice."

The present English scene, moreover, is in marked contrast to the situation Taylor's side faced in Sweden four years ago, when England knew they had to beat the hosts in Stockholm to stay in the tournament. They lost, of course, and the salty Gary Lineker was duly martyred.

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England's striker Teddy Sheringham who has now failed to exploit three free headers, two of them set up at the far post by identical free-kick ploys, has been another disappointment. Holland's defenders are nothing if not swift and at this level Sheringham's acute footballing brain cannot conceal his chronic slowness. Barby may play a part some time this evening.

that he might not get close enough to the Dutch striker even to joke about it. Another yellow card and Adams would be out of the quarter-finals, leaving Venables with Southgate, Gary Neville and Campbell as the only members of his squad with centre-back experience. This would not be an ideal state of affairs should England find themselves facing, say, Stoichkov at Wembley on Saturday.

England's lack of pace at centre-back and left-back was exposed by Turkylmaz in the Swiss match, and Pearce did not survive half-time against Scotland. Phil Neville, younger and quicker, could be an option at left-back tonight, but will Venables jettison Pearce's experience at the start?

Sheringham, who has now failed to exploit three free headers, two of them set up at the far post by identical free-kick ploys, has been another disappointment. Holland's defenders are nothing if not swift and at this level Sheringham's acute footballing brain cannot conceal his chronic slowness. Barby may play a part some time this evening.

Gullit looks to Vialli to prove a point at Chelsea

Don Best
GIANLUCA VIALLI was not considered good enough for Italy's Euro 96 squad but Chelsea's player-manager Ruud Gullit believes the striker (right), signed from Juventus, will set the Premiership alight.

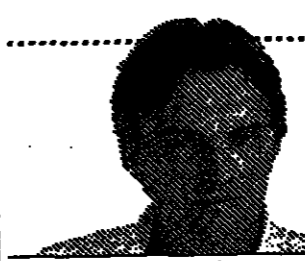


coach Arrigo Sacchi, who left him out of the Euro 96 squad. "It will be difficult for me to get back into the national side with Sacchi as manager," he said. "But I hope to score many goals for Chelsea and that will put Sacchi in trouble."

As Britain enters a glorious summer of sporting tournaments, enthusiastic amateurs stream out of their back gardens to the nearest tennis court, health club or recreation ground. And sometimes they end up covered, not in glory, but in plaster of Paris.

Health G2 page 8

Gloss finishes help cover up dull patterns



Richard Williams

THE oddest aspect of England's two performances so far in Euro 96 is that the players have performed like cart-horses while managing to score three goals of extravagant technical quality, fashioned by footballing imagination of the highest calibre.

all people, on Sunday night gave expression to the fantasies of everyone who ever paid money to enjoy the skills of Stan Bowles, Frank Worthington, Duncan McKenzie and Tony Currie — men willing, like Suker, to take a gamble on their own virtuosity.

What it all means is anyone's guess, and is no more susceptible to rational analysis than are England's chances of making further progress in a competition which, except for Germany's justified confidence and Turkey's early bath, has been refreshingly short on predictability.

These two strikes were Terry Venables's reward for sticking by Shearer, not to imagine, that he was ever in two minds about the matter. The Blackburn forward scores a lot of goals, not many of them mundane. But they are seldom solo efforts, and it will take a few more to convince us that the team are capable of providing him with a regular supply of ammunition.

For other teams involved in Euro 96, goals have usually represented the end product of team strategies. There may not have been many goals in the early matches (an average of 1.87 per game), but a high proportion of them have been memorable, mostly for a moment of instant individual skill, coldly applied.

IT MAKES life more interesting, if less comfortable. Two years ago no one would have envisioned Venables's stewardship culminating in an English dependency on isolated moments of magic.

Guardian Crossword No 20,682

Set by Pasquale

Across

- 5 Hard work, article? Catchy phrase needed (6)
- 6 Stay in custody to be watched (6)
- 9 Measure gold in falling star (6)
- 10 Wine sire ordered to go with fish (6)
- 11 Touched material in haberdashery (4)
- 12 A horse bolted sadly, he breaking free from it? (5,4)
- 13 French sweet making poor English trifle look silly (1,1)
- 18 Gosh — op being put back leads to recovery through the body! (10)
- 21 Unsophisticated enthusiast returning to embrace one (4)
- 22 Rodent in classical land held by rebel (5,3)
- 23 Rubbish unknown in Irish county (6)

Down

- 1 Rods sailor put down as navigational aid (4,4)
- 2 Island bomber (6)
- 3 Twit interrupted by bore, someone in trade (6)
- 4 Guided submarine to be waterproof? (6)
- 5 Country holiday region with ideal garden (6)
- 7 Hero of Lepanto reportedly in the tower (6)
- 8 It could deflect battle spear (11)
- 14 In favour of locks to make place very secure (6)
- 15 Stretch limo seen in county town (6)

Crossword Solution 20,682

16 Marsh plant enthralls artist (6)
17 Bar offering accommodation (6)
19 Make a mess tucking into food from Frenchman (6)
20 The ancient sign found by countyfolk (6)

Solution tomorrow

23 Stuck? Then call our solution line on 0800 333 222. Calls cost 50p per min, cheap rate, 49p per min at all other times. Service supplied by BT.

Wednesday June 18 1996

Richard Nicoll on Bad b

G2 with European

When does he get from here

John D

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Inside

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